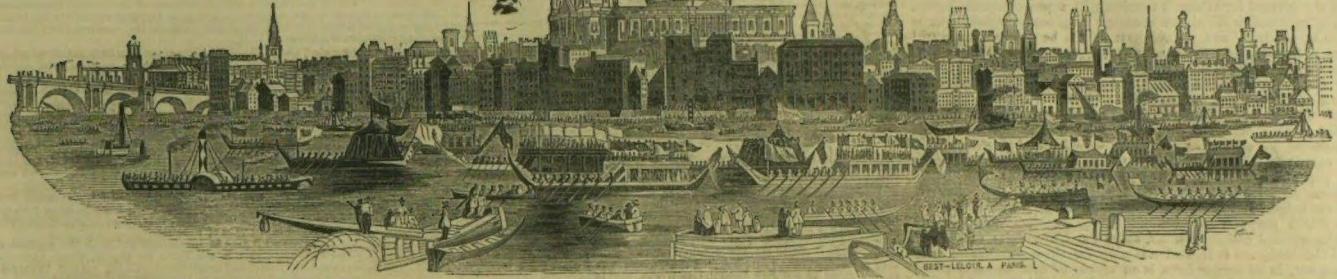


# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



No. 463.—VOL. XVIII.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1851.

[SIXPENCE.

## THE EXCISE DUTY ON PAPER.

THE year has opened with a large financial surplus, and the doors of the Treasury are besieged by a crowd of over-taxed and eager applicants for relief. Each of them is injuriously affected by some particular impost out of the many that press upon the collective energies of the people, and each is perhaps more anxious for the repeal of the one that is felt to be individually oppressive, than for the general re-consideration of the whole subject with a view to national rather than partial benefit. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will have hard work to defend his "surplus" from their combined attacks. We hope that more wisdom will govern his councils than he exhibited when he was last placed in the enviable position of a tax-repealer. His surplus is large enough to enable him to satisfy many of the applicants, and to grant substantial, not illusory relief.

The four most prominent of the oppressive taxes that will be brought under his notice, are the Property and Income-Tax, the Window Duty, the Soap Duty, and the Paper Duty. A strong case can be made out against each of them. It may be asserted that the Property and Income-Tax was temporarily imposed to meet a casual deficiency, and that in justice it ought to be immediately repealed, now that the necessity which produced it is no longer in existence. Far be it from us to attempt to weaken the force

of this argument. We admit it to the fullest extent. With regard to the Window Tax and the Soap Duty, they are taxes upon the public health and comfort; and the first of the two operates most injuriously upon the amenity of our homes, and our enjoyment of the air and light of heaven. The Excise Duty upon Soap, besides being an interference with trade, is to some extent a tax upon cleanliness. There is no reason in the world, that we are aware of, why either of them should be retained, except that they are productive. We have not a word to urge in their behalf, and shall rejoice if they be forthwith swept away, even if the country should be taxed in some other manner to make up the deficiency which their abolition might cause.

The Paper Duty, which we have mentioned last, seems to us, however, so immeasurably more injurious than any of the other three, that we would urge its immediate abolition, in preference to any or all of them. Even were there a deficit, instead of a surplus, it ought to be repealed; and we trust that the gentlemen who have taken advantage of the present condition of the national income to put forward a claim in behalf of untaxed paper, will occupy the high ground upon the question which they are entitled to assume. The accidental plethora in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's money-bags may render it easier for the Government to yield upon this point than might otherwise have been the case; but it must never be forgotten that the tax is so

impolitic, so bad, so unjust, so mischievous, in every possible way, that its abolition would be the imperative duty of a wise and far-seeing Government, even if it were in distress for want of money. Were human ingenuity exhausted to discover a tax that could commit more serious mischief on free and civilised people than the tax upon paper, it would fail to find one; unless, perhaps, it were an excise duty upon quartern and half-quartern loaves. Next to such an odious tax as that would be, it is difficult to imagine an impost more directly injurious to all, except the very rich, than the Duty on Paper. We proceed to show how multifarious are the evils which it causes, and how many claims—each different, and each sufficient—may be urged for its immediate abolition.

In the first place, let us consider how the tax affects the manufacturer and the labourer, and how much it interferes with the trade and industry of the people. Paper is made of a material that, of itself, is but of little value. Not above two-fifths of the cost of production go for the rags, or the refuse cotton of which it is manufactured, and for the construction, and wear and tear of machinery. All the rest goes for labour. Raw cotton, a short time ago, was burdened with a duty of five-sixteenths of a penny per pound, which was repealed because it was supposed to interfere injuriously with the cotton manufacture. The refuse of cotton, which cannot be employed for any useful purpose except for paper-making, is taxed, although cotton itself is free. The law allows any one to burn another



ENGLISH PROTESTANT PLACE OF WORSHIP AT ROME.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

wise destroy cotton refuse, but as soon as it is converted into one of the most beautiful and useful articles of civilised life—paper—it is taxed by the Government at a rate amounting to about three hundred per cent. on its previous value. Add to this the constant supervision of the Excise Office, which is not simply a nuisance to the manufacturer, but, by the restrictions imposed upon him as regards the use of material, prevents him from making experiments, and from improving his manufacture, and thus operates injuriously upon him to an extent which is almost impossible to estimate. Whatever affects the manufacturer affects the labourer. If the demand for an article of prime necessity is restricted by the dearness consequent upon a tax, the demand for labour is restricted in a proportionate degree. When we consider the almost countless purposes for which paper is already required, and to which it might be applied with still greater advantage to the overstocked labour-market of the country, if no tax were placed upon it, we come to the conclusion that, simply as a manufacturer's question, and without reference at all to the moral and intellectual character of the subject, it is of national importance that the trade of paper-making should be as free as that of calico-making, or the cloth manufacture, or any other untaxed branch of industry that feeds the people, and enables them to contribute to the prosperity of the State. Large quantities of paper are used, not only for printed books and newspapers, but for the whole correspondence of the country; for the ledgers and day-books of all its trades and professions, and for school purposes in every educational establishment, from the workhouse and national schools, up to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It is used not only for these intellectual purposes, but, in its coarser form, is an article of first necessity to all wholesale and retail traders, for the package of their goods. It is also extensively used in the arts, in the shape of card-board, and mill-tissue. It forms the ornament of the walls of our apartments; and, were it untaxed, might be made to adorn the cottages and huts of the poor, as well as the houses of the middle and upper classes. Every one of these, and many other markets for paper, is narrowed by the tax, and by the interference of the excise-man in the operations of the manufacture. It is no exaggeration to say, that not a fourth part of the paper is consumed in any one of these various branches of business that would be consumed if the duty were abolished. For every individual whose labour is now employed in the production of paper, it is likely that four would be employed, if the trade were as free as that of calico-making. It has been estimated, on unquestionable authority, that, in London alone, 40,000 additional people would procure work in some one or other of the countless trades that depend upon paper, including, besides the paper-maker, the printer, the book-binder, the bookseller, and the author; the mechanist, the type-founder, the paper-stainer, the paper-hanger, and scores of others that will suggest themselves to the reader's mind without being enumerated. At least a quarter of a million of people in addition to those now directly or indirectly employed on, or interested in, the manufacture of paper, would thus, in all probability, find employment throughout the whole country, to the diminution of the Poor-rates, and to the increase of the national wealth. We assert that upon this ground alone, independently of the state of the national revenue, the Government has no right to throw this amount of productive labour out of the market, and so impede or prevent the industry of the people. The money brought in to the national Exchequer from this source cannot be a gain. It is, indeed, a question whether, for the sake of the £800,000 per annum derived from it, the State does not in reality lose twice or even three times that amount, which it might receive in other and fairer taxes if these 250,000 people were fully and profitably employed. Nor is this all the mischief. "The raw material from which paper is manufactured," says Mr. Crompton, the eminent paper-maker, in an able pamphlet which has just been published, "is now being purchased by foreigners to be manufactured in countries where no tax exists, and the paper produced therefrom superseding, in our own colonies and other countries, British paper." The consequence is, that large quantities of the raw materials are shipped to the United States; and this not only advances the price here, but takes away the labour upon the same, which would otherwise be performed in England.<sup>1</sup> As a necessary supplement of the Free-Trade policy, which the Government has staked its character and existence to maintain and carry out, it is bound to treat the paper-maker with justice, and to place him on a footing of equality with other manufacturers. If it were proposed to-morrow to put an excise-duty upon manufactured cotton, there would be such an outcry throughout the length and breadth of the land, that no Government could hold it place against it. We have but to imagine what a blow it would aim at our home and foreign trade—what a diminution of employment it would cause—what poverty and pauperism it would create, to see at a glance the full impolicy and injustice of that similar tax, which now exists upon paper. The one tax is not a whit more devious than the other would be.

We find the subject has grown upon us. We have scarcely touched upon it as a consumer's question, and have purposefully abstained from complicating the argument by the important considerations which arise from it, in its connection with the literature and education of the country. We must, therefore, return to it in our next, and leave it in the meantime as a manufacturer's question, to the earnest support of all the friends of Free-Trade. In this view of it—and even if paper had nothing whatever to do with the extension of religious and secular knowledge among the people—we should consider the case for the repeal of the duty as it becomes evident. How much more important and urgent it becomes, in connection with the cause of Religion, Education, and Literature, we shall endeavour to show hereafter.

#### REPEAL OF THE PAPER DUTY.

A crowded meeting took place on Thursday evening at the London Tavern, for the purpose of adopting such measures as might seem advisable for obtaining the abolition of the tax upon paper. Shortly after seven o'clock the chair was taken by Charles Cowan, Esq., M.P.; and among the gentlemen on the platform we observed Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; Peter Borthwick, Esq.; Herbert Ingram, Esq.; Mr. John Cassell, Mr. C. Reed, Mr. F. Barnes, Mr. Thomas Beesly, Mr. J. Holyoake, &c.

The chairman said the object of the present meeting was to devise such measures as might be deemed expedient for obtaining a repeal of the Paper Duty. Some of the paper-manufacturers believed that the repeal of the duty would be injurious to their interests (cries of "No, no!"), but even if there was a pecuniary loss, it would be most desirable to get rid of the vexatious restrictions imposed by the trade. If it was a monopoly, the sooner that monopoly was got rid of the better for the classes of the community. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman then proceeded to call attention to the fact that the law to which the Excise regulations subjected the manufacturers, he believed if any other article of general consumption was subject to such restrictions the law should not be permitted to endure for a day. (Hear, hear.) He then pointed out specimens of paper manufactured from straw, and which was calculated to confer the same benefit upon the agricultural interest, but the enormous duty which the Government intended to impose upon it had put an end to that species of manufacture. He objected to the tax upon paper more peculiarly, because it was a tax upon labour. There was in the habit of ridiculing the Chinese for crippling the "understandings" of their sons; but their own conduct was equally absurd and unjustifiable, because they crippled the industry and resources of the working-classes. He reminded the meeting, that in Paris there were 90,000 females employed in the manufacture of ornamental paper and boxes, which were intended to produce at an extremely cheap rate, in consequence of the absence of all taxes upon paper. Surely, when they had daily placed before them such lamentable examples of privation and misery to which the great bulk of the female working-classes were exposed in their own metropolis, all philanthropists were bound to exert themselves to obtain a repeal of these vexatious and impolitic duties. The hon. gentleman referred to the depressed condition of the letter-press printers, owing partly to this tax and to the effect which the reduction of these duties would have in diffusing copies of the sacred writings as well as cheap

literature generally among the people. A reference to the Crystal Palace, and the objects for which it was built, elicited applause, followed by laughter and hissing from some of the persons present; and Mr. Cowan concluded by expressing a hope that, now the subject had been taken out of the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and brought before the House of Commons, they would be enabled to do something for the relief of the poor.

A letter was then read from Mr. George Tamm, M.P., in which he expressed his desire to form one of the committee for the Repeal of the Paper Duty, and yielded his cordial support to the objects of the meeting.

Mr. John Cassell moved the first resolution. It was anxious for the repeal of these taxes, not only because it interfered with the labour and industry of the people, but also because it prevented a more general diffusion of information among the people. The resolution was as follows:—

"That the opinion of this meeting is, that the duty on paper is emphatically a tax upon skill and ingenuity, and limits the field of production, thus interfering with the employment of capital and labour engaged in a variety of trades and occupations, and affecting less directly, but most injuryfully, the interests of the working-class; and that the heavy taxation of paper, pamphlets, and books, tends to keep down the labouring classes, that frequently remained unsold. But, independently of the inconvenience and loss to those connected with the manufacture and consumption of paper, he took his stand upon the higher ground of its interfering materially with the diffusion of literature and knowledge among the people. He believed that had been the stupendous consequence world not be admitted until the time of the appearance of the *Champlain*. (Cheers.) He pointed out the injurious operations of the tax upon the publications issued by himself, and although it had been said that the repeal of these taxes would let loose a flood of low-class publications upon the country, he took leave to deny it. (Hear, hear.) He believed there never was a time when there was such a spirit of enquiry abroad among the working-classes. (Cheers.) If they could only obtain cheap publications, he was satisfied the artisans and mechanics would have a better understanding of their rights and duties. (Loud cheers.) Seeing the universal demand that prevailed upon this subject, he did not see how the Government could resist the appeal. Having pointed out the great increase that had taken place in the consumption of paper during the last few years, he would ask the meeting what would be the amount of increase if the duty was abolished? It should suffice to assure them that he would use all his efforts to promote the intellectual advancement of the class from which he had himself sprung. (Cheers.)

Mr. Peter Borthwick seconded the resolution. They had assembled that evening to ask the Government whether they meant to release the industry and manufactures of that country from the oppressive Excise regulations under which some of its branches still laboured; and to call upon them to render a pledge to that public so far back as the time of Sir Henry Farmar's Excise Committee. (Hear, hear.) That committee had recommended the removal of the tax upon paper, and had declared that the tax upon paper was of no value; its whole value was derived from labour, and labour alone. He instanced the case of a paper which cost 10s. a penny per pound, or about 7 or 8 per cent.; its value was considered as oppressive a tax that the Government took it off; while paper was taxed to the amount of at least 300 per cent. upon its value, and unless the people spoke out that tax would be continued. It was estimated that the tax would cost no less than 500,000 additional pounds to be employed in it; if it was removed, the value and utility of uses to which paper would be put in that case, the number of hours would immensely increased. He did not believe it to be done that than, as they might read every day, these 500,000 persons to go across the broad Atlantic and seek employment were their labour and industry was untaxed? (Cheers.) There were other objectionable taxes, and he might instance the penny stamp upon documents. (Cheers)—which was also an indirect tax upon knowledge. He trusted that would all be unanimous in their demand for the abolition of this tax upon paper, and they might rely upon it the others would shortly follow. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Rusby, from the body of the meeting, wished to know whether the business of the meeting was to be confined to the objects embodied in the resolution, as it was, or was it his intention to move an amendment.

The chairman said the business of the meeting was confined to the objects embodied in the particular resolution. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously, amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Peter moved the next resolution. It was intimated to them by the chairman that the manufacturers, as a body, were opposed to the repeal of the tax; but he felt satisfied that the public would not submit to be controlled by what was merely a class interest. (Cheers.) His objection to the tax was embodied in the resolution he had to submit to the meeting, and was grounded upon higher and more important considerations than the impedimenta it threw in the way of the education and knowledge of the people. (Cheers.) He had the honour of being a member of the great periodical literature, *Charles Knight*, in support of the abolition of this tax, and he should conclude by submitting the following resolution:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the duty on paper, by adding to the cost, and consequently increasing the price of books, newspapers, and periodicals, impedes the progress of knowledge and education of the people.

Mr. Herbert Ingram seconded the resolution. At that late hour he would not detain the meeting by any lengthened remarks. As a large consumer and manufacturer, he could assure them that all the evils and inconveniences referred to by the chairman were experienced by him. He would, however, refer particularly to the production of cheap works, which could not, he doubtless, be produced at one-half their present price, if the duty on paper was abolished. (Hear, hear.) He had a large experience, as consuming many tons of paper per week; and he could, therefore, speak with confidence upon this point. He gave his hearty support to the resolution. (Cheers.)

Mr. Herbert Ingram, in the name of the chairman, to move an amendment. His object was rather to extend the terms of the resolution that had been moved, than to move any new amendment. The purport of his amendment or addition was to include the 1s. 6d. of the advertisement duty and the stamp upon newspapers. (Cheers.) Although cheap literary publications were of great value, it was of still more importance that the people should have political periodicals which would protect them from political oppression, and maintain their political freedom. (Cheers.) So long as these taxes were retained, the poor man would find it impossible to obtain even a newspaper. (Hear, hear.) Having urged upon the meeting the great advantages that would result from enlarging the terms of the resolution, and thereby taking it out of the category of a trade question, and elevating it to the dignity of a great public interest, he concluded amidst loud cheers by submitting his amendment.

Mr. Herbert Ingram, as amended, was then put to the meeting, and unanimously agreed to amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Edwards moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was duly seconded, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Cowan briefly returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

#### ENGLISH PROTESTANT PLACE OF WORSHIP AT ROME.

AMONGST the various points of discussion raised by the recent agitation on the "Papal Aggression," the question of the character of the toleration accorded to the Protestant religion in Rome has been mooted; and from the fact of the English Chapel being outside the walls of the city, it would seem to be inferred that external separation has been imposed as a mark of degradation on an antagonist church, by the bigotry of ecclesiastical statesmen.

Without entering upon this "vexed question" we may observe, that, as the Prussians of the Lutheran religion possess a place of worship within the city, and the Americans, who of late years have begun to resort to Rome in larger numbers than was hitherto customary with our transatlantic brethren, have succeeded, through the judicious interference and great influence of Mr. Cassel, the American Charge d'affaires, with Cardinal Antonelli, in obtaining the sanction of his Eminence, as Cardinal Secretary of State, to the establishment in the very heart of the city, of a Protestant church. The Rev. Dr. G. H. Smith, of the Reformed Faith publicly perform Divine service according to the Presbyterian ritual; it would seem that the site of the English Chapel, *extra moenia*, which has been instanced as an indignity offered to the Church of England as

the head-quarters of Catholicism, is due rather to the absence from Rome of any public functionary accredited from this country who could with propriety make a representation in the proper quarter on the subject—Great Britain being the only State recognizing the comity of nations, which has no diplomatic relations with the Court of Rome.

Until the year 1826, the English residents at Rome had no fixed place of worship, a prayer being read on Sundays, sometimes at one private residence and sometimes at another, according to the convenience of the members. The reason of this was, that the Porta del Popolo, on the ancient Flaminian Way, an apartment in which they considered of sufficiently spacious dimensions to afford accommodation to the increasing numbers of the congregation, which in successive seasons increased from six to eight hundred souls. This building, which had been used as a schoolroom, was a mere hole in the wall, which had been fitted up in the winter of the above year, for the services, was the custom of the English, which accorded, either as a guard of honour, or to preserve order in the neighbourhood, two sentinels to keep watch and ward at the entrance every Sunday, during the hours of service.

The interior of the "Chapel" thus dedicated, at the very threshold of the Valecchio, or the religious uses of the descendants of the men who, in the days of its erection, had mainly done its thunders in the days of religious domination and political strife. A simple priest, as in the earliest days of its spiritual pretensions and power, is plain and wholly devoid of ornament; its form is oblong, and it contains a pulpit, reading-desk, and communion-table, together with seats and benches for the congregation. The tiled floor is covered with straw, over which is laid a carpet, according to the Roman fashion. To insure that the service is always a verger in attendance to direct strangers, a man provides them with pocket-bibles, testaments, &c., and gives whatever other information the officiating clergyman or the curate may require; and this official, oddly enough, is an Italian and a Roman Catholic.

The service of the Chapel is only maintained during the season—that is, from the commencement of October to the end of May—the English, along with other fashionable visitors of the Eternal City, invariably migrating to some cooler retreat during the sultry months of summer. In proportion as the progress of the papacy is seen in the foreground, with the sentinel at the door, the city grows in the background, with the sentinel at the grand northern entrance to Rome, and corresponds with the ancient Flaminian Gate, which spans the Flaminian Way as it entered the city; the site, however, is not exactly the same, the Flaminian Gate having been a few yards more to the east, in the walls built by the Emperor Honorius, at the close of the fourth century, and seen in the background, of the Porta del Popolo—of the external *arcus* seen in the foreground, due to the genius of Michael Angelo, which is a lofty structure, supported on each side of the arch by flanking columns of the Doric order, in pairs, the intercolumniations of which are filled with statues of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul. Through the gateway is seen the Piazza del Popolo, with its noble fountains, Egyptian obelisk, and churches—one of the finest public squares in Europe.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

##### FRANCE.

As the fear of the Red Republic fades away in the minds of public men in France, the inherent weakness of that incongruous compound of heterogeneous politics—the "party of order"—as the majority in the Legislative Assembly is most unappropriately called, begins to display itself in purposeless disputes and divisions, and party intrigues, and petty plots, which seem to flourish amongst our neighbours with a luxuriance of growth peculiar to the political soil of that country, and which produce no other fruit than contempt and hatred for all constituted authority.

The disgraceful origin of the conspiracy of the spy Allat, which we noticed last week, has terminated, so far as that miscreant is concerned, in his conviction for the charge of making false and calumnious denunciations, and his condemnation to a year's imprisonment, a fine of 300 francs, and the payment of the costs of his own trial. With respect to M. You, the Commissary of Police of the Legislative Assembly, whose very questionable conduct in the thorough-going intrigues which took place at the time of the dissolution, notwithstanding all the prevarications of that organization, the whole business, notwithstanding that he found any support in the Assembly, but M. Dupin, at any cost to thwart the Ministry and snub the President of the Republic—against whom the majority has for the present thought fit, from some unaccountable fit of caprice, to array itself in hostility—was too strong to be resisted; and the committee in whom the question of the dismissal or retention of M. You in the session of the Assembly was referred, reported in favour of his being retained in his post, but M. You, notwithstanding this decided finding, found his position so ambivalent that he resigned on Tuesday, which was at once accepted by the President and the authorities of the Assembly. The ill-feeling that has sprung out of the master between M. Dupin, the President of the Assembly, and Louis Napoleon, is such that it could not be restrained at the official reception at the Elysée on Saturday evening, when M. Dupin, in the customary address on such occasions, having received the President of the Republic from a person sent for the person of the President, and a warm desire to preserve a good understanding between the two powers of the state, was interrupted by M. Bonaparte, who angrily exclaimed, "I must believe it, M. le President, because you say it." The President of the Republic, in his reply, thus addressed the President of the Civil Tribunals of Paris: "Yes, and, in each of the limits of our attributes, must endeavour to enforce respect for the law, for the authority, and the authority which is given to us by the constitution, without encroaching on the other's power. I do not insist on the prerogative of my powers, but I do insist, what I shall restore to the people the power which I have received from it, to restore it intact and respected. My conviction is that France wishes for peace and order, and it would blame the one of the two powers which would attack the other."

Another cause of collision between the authorities has been created, by the arrest of M. Maquin, a member of the Legislative Assembly, who was a member of the party of order, and who, in the course of his speech on the 27th ult., in the name of the *partie de l'ordre*, was injured by a pistol shot in the head, as well as those of his *partisans*, who were injured by a pistol shot in the head, and a warm desire to preserve a good understanding between the two powers of the state, was interrupted by M. Bonaparte, who angrily exclaimed, "I must believe it, M. le President, because you say it." The President of the Republic, in his reply, thus addressed the President of the Civil Tribunals of Paris: "Yes, and, in each of the limits of our attributes, must endeavour to enforce respect for the law, and thus committed the Government to a policy of leniency in the progress of the Assembly; and the Assembly, to be avenged, and accordingly was released, despite the will of the Government and the decision of the law authorities."

These checks given so unhesitatingly to the Ministry by the Legislative Assembly, afford topics for copious speculation in the Parisian press; but it is thought that, though the Government cannot continue in office if many similar obstacles should occur, the debts already sustained will not cause any change in the Cabinet at present.

##### GERMAN STATES.

The Free Conferences of the plenipotentiaries of the German Powers at Dresden have begun, but nothing has yet been effected towards an adjustment of the questions at issue, beyond the settlement of preliminaries.

M. de Beau, the Saxon Minister, presided at the first meeting, on the 27th ult., in the British Palace, and announced that the Conferences were opened under the joint direction of the Austrian and Prussian Governments, who had selected him (M. de Beau) to act as chairman.

On the same day (the 27th ult.), the Elector of Hesse returned to his capital (Cassel), and, amidst the parade of Austrian, Prussian, Bavarian, and Hessian troops, and the sullen gloom and silence of his subjects, once more took up his abode in his palace.

With regard to the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, we learn from Vienna, under date of the 29th ult., that Austria and Prussia had resolved to march against Holstein, and that the Federal troops would immediately pass through the Prussian territories for that purpose. The accounts from Berlin of the 30th ult. confirm this statement, and advises from Cassel and Frankfurt of the 31st, announce that the Federal troops already began their march upon Holstein; they are to proceed by way of Magdeburg.

##### UNITED STATES.

The accounts this week from New York are to the 21st ult., and are of considerable interest. The President has issued a proclamation declaring that the act of Congress fixing the Texas boundary is in full force and effect. This shows that the Texan Government is now in a very comely condition. On the contrary, the Legislature of South Carolina emitted a note of warlike preparation, the Senate having passed a bill for a convention, and giving 200,000 dollars for military purposes. It is not likely, however, that anything will come of this, for all the forts in the harbour of Charleston are fully manned with the troops of the central government, and 100,000 volunteers could be raised in the state in a few days. The President is to take possession of all the principal towns. The Friends in regard to the ministry of the South Carolina Legislature, and the South Carolina, demanding the reasons for sending troops to the garrisons of their state, were told that, being Commander-in-Chief of the navies and armies of the United States, he could not be held accountable for the manner in which he performed his duties. The Secretary of the Treasury had issued his annual statement of the finances of the country. The report, in accordance with the President's Message, recommends a revision of the laws, and a more specific and definite duty in all cases where they can be applied, and a more lenient valuation substituted in others for the present *ad valorem* duties; and, in the event of the rejection of these, the substitution of a higher rate of duties upon certain articles. These several propositions all tend to the accomplishment of one object—namely, the protection of the New England manufacturers and the Pennsylvania iron masters. It is the revival of the old protective policy which has been always advocated by Mr. Webster, though now brought before Congress under the more specious pretext of guarding the revenue from fraud. The whole change involves the appointment of a large number of appraisers and other officials, who will, according to the usage

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on such occasions, be selected from political partisans whose votes will be of service to the Government.

On the 16th ult., the business in the Senate at Washington was temporarily interrupted by consequence of the excitement of the senators on the appearance of Jenny Lind in the gallery. Miss Lind's first concert at Washington was crowded to excess, and attended by the President and all the notabilities. Jenny was eminently successful at Baltimore; the enthusiasm of the public in no wise abating. Large preparations have been made for her at Havana, where a very sumptuous residence has been taken for her. Our last accounts from thence are to the effect that the Havanaans are in very great doubt whether they shall admit her now; but if they do have the concert that they are the greatest amateurs in the world, and that there is no other music in the world than that of the Italian school. They are, therefore, in great doubt whether they ought to like Jenny Lind or no.

A number of lives were lost on the Mississippi, near New Orleans, on the 13th ult., by the explosion of the boiler of a steam-boat. She was on a pleasure excursion with a party of over 100 persons on board, including several ladies and several members of the New Orleans press.

The ship *South Carolina*, from Liverpool, Oct. 23, arrived in the lower harbour of Boston on the 12th ult., with signals of distress. She had thirty cases of small-pox on board, from which the passengers had suffered severely.

George Thompson is lecturing to large audiences in Boston on the subject of British India; having given up any direct reference to the peculiar institutions of Asia, he has turned his attention to American audiences.

A spiritual meeting has been held in New York by the friends of cheap postage. Resolutions were adopted urging an immediate and general action in Congress in favour of the bill reported at the last session, providing for a uniform rate of two cents pre-paid, on letters, and one cent on newspapers.

A destructive conflagration took place at Halifax on the 11th ult., consuming about 100 dwelling-houses and the Custom-house.

The two million dollars of gold dust had been received from California.

The advices from the territory, however, are very discouraging. Cholera was devastating the cities of Sacramento and San Francisco at a most frightful rate.

## WEST INDIES.

We have advices from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 12th ult.

The cholera had quite subsided in Port Royal and St. Catherine's. In Kingston the cases were few, and the hospitals contained few patients. In the country districts, however, it was raging violently, and numbers were being carried off.

## INDIA.

Accounts anticipatory of the Overland Mail have been received during the week. The dates are Bombay, Dec. 31; Calcutta, Nov. 23. The whole of that vast empire was in a state of almost perfect tranquillity. The subjugation of the Punjab was considered so complete, that official orders had been issued to the Indian troops to fire upon no one people, Sikhs, Hindus, and Mussulmen. This was deemed a most judicious measure.

Sir George Berkeley, the Commander-in-Chief at Madras, had sent in his resignation, declining to serve under Sir W. Gomm, who is his junior. Major Angelo had been removed from the management of the Calcutta branch of the North Western Bank, in consequence of a deficiency in his accounts. The troops were still suffering much sickness in the Punjab.

The English government is in full process both at Bombay and Calcutta. Schools were rising in all directions, and under the most influential auspices, for the improvement of the poorer classes.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

**SCINDIA PRIZE-MONEY TO BE REFUNDED.**—The Court of Directors having decided that the overpaid shares shall be refunded, the President of the Council in India has directed that the several sums so overpaid in the Meanes and Hyderabad portions of the Scinde prize-money shall be recovered in six monthly instalments, commencing from the first issue of pay, officers returning to India being required to make good the amount previous to their embarkation.

**THE BRITISH MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.**—We have intelligence from Malta by the French Mail to the 22nd December, which brings account that the fleet under Sir William Parker sailed from Port Mahon on the 2nd, and anchored on the 5th at Barcelona, whence, however, they were compelled by a gale of wind to take a sudden departure on the 11th, leaving the *Sovereign* to pick up some thirty officers from the different ships who happened to be on shore, and were unable to get on board. The *Sovereign* conveyed them all to Malta, where the fleet had been joined by the *Dragon*. The *Dragon*, however, was not ready for duty, though it is possible that Sir William Parker, to avoid the hubbub of a Christmas Day in port, will manage to keep out until the 26th. The *Dragon* will repair to Naples to relieve the *Spitfire*.

**THE VACANT COLONELCY.**—*On dit* that Earl Cathercet, the Colonel of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, will be removed to the Colonelcy of the 1st Dragoon Guards, and that Major-General Bourchier will succeed to the 3rd Dragoon Guards.

**CETLON RIFLE REGIMENT.**—It is stated that orders have been issued to reduce this regiment to the extent of 400 men.

**THE MARINE SERVICE.**—On Wednesday, the 1st inst., the acts of last session (13 and 14 Vict., cap. 20) came into force, making the condition of masters, mates, and seamen, and disciplining discipline in the marine service, came into force in its several parts. Hitherto its operation has been confined in respect to the Board of Trade, to the election of local marine boards, to preparations for providing sailors' houses in resort towns, and to the granting of certificates of service and of competency to persons who were connected with the service. The 1st of January has been fixed for the operation of the new regulations, and the 1st of February for the election of local marine boards, ship, desertion, discipline, log-books, payment of wages, and discharge of seamen, in regard to such ships as are in the United Kingdom, and to the owners and crews thereof; and with respect to such ships as are not within the United Kingdom on that day, and to the owners, masters, mates, and crews thereof, as soon after the first subsequent arrival of such ship in the United Kingdom before the expiration of the first voyage or return-journey from any place thereto. Among the requisitions now enforced, one requiring that no incoming ship shall proceed to sea without the production of the certificates of master and mates as to their competency. Each seaman is to have nine superficial feet on board, properly constructed. Agreements are to be made with seamen, and to contain particulars as to the voyage and payment of wages; indeed every precaution seems to have been taken to improve the condition of persons engaged in the service.

**CLASSIC REMAINS.**—Mr. Harris, of Alexandria, in a letter to a correspondent of the *Athenaeum*, gives some curious information about the discovery of more of a papyrus of Homer:—“I have had the good fortune to find a portion of the missing part of this papyrus, consisting of 171 lines—leaving 130 lines in verse to be sought for, and which I have a faint hope of recovering. I have obtained also another papyrus in a book of primitive form, which, if it is a fragment (and it is very likely to be so), would, by the indication on it, contain the other four books of the ‘Ilion’ (bk. 7, &c.).” The name of the grammarian of Tryphon of Alexandria. Should you succeed in finding a further portion of these MSS., you shall have a particular account of them; otherwise, I will give a note of the parts now in my possession. I believe that these documents have been taken from the body of Tryphon; and an arm, which I preserve in my study as a reliqu, I consider to be the arm of the grammarian torn from the mummy in order to release the papyrus roll, and delivered to me with the fragment first preserved by the grammarian Tryphon lived about the age of Augustus, so that this papyrus MS. of the ‘Ilion’ was probably of that age, or of the first century A.D. It is another proof of the great state of many valuable works which must have been attached to mummies, and which have been recklessly destroyed by those jacks of mummies, the Fellas of Egypt.”

A very remarkable work has just appeared in Upsala (Sweden); it is entitled “Alvæggoðið tilhūn Matthiæti, or, Fragments of the Gospel of St. Matthew translated into the Gothic language, with a vocabulary and grammar.” An Anders Gustafsson dedicated it to Their Petre to whose generous assistance the editor is indebted for the means of bringing out this work.

**WINDING UP JOHN-STOCK COMPANIES.**—The following is a list of those railway and joint-stock companies now under the operation of the Winding-up Act, in connexion with which calls have been made to defray liabilities: Direct Birmingham, Oxford, and Reading Railway; Direct Exeter, Plymouth, and Devonport Railway; Direct West-end and Croydon Railway; Galway and Ennis Grand Junction Railway; Direct Trunk, and Stafford and Peterborough Railways; West Coast, and Great Northern Railways; and the London and South-Western Railway. The following is a list of those companies in which a dividend has been declared at present: the Tring, Reading, and Basingstoke Railway. The general joint-stock companies in connexion with which similar calls have been made, and are in course of payment, are the Bawden Iron Company; Boston and Thorpe Arch Bath Company; Godolphin Mining Company; Kilbirken Silver Lead Mining Company; Kingland, Dalton, and De Beaufort Town Lead and Zinc Smelting and Dredging Company; Nister Dale Iron Company; North of England Steel Stock Backing Company; Northern Coal Mining Company; Saint George's Steam Packet Company. It is calculated that between £100,000 and £200,000 have been or are being collected in the shape of calls under these estates, to pay off creditors and outstanding liabilities.

**INTERIOR RAILWAYS.**—One of the most important features of the present Congress of the United States has been the introduction of a bill in the Senate, by Mr. Benton, providing for a national and continental railway from the Mississippi, at St. Louis, to the bay of San Francisco, in California. The Indians titles to be bought; military posts to be established; and land to be granted free of cost to actual settlers. The roads to occupy a space of one mile broad, enclosing a rail-road, a plank road, and a common highway. The road will be 1600 miles long, with two branches—one to Santa Fe, 300 miles; and one to Oregon, 300 miles. The amount of land allotted to each to be 100 acres per family for settlers, public purposes, &c., &c.; and the whole amount of land to be granted, 150,000,000 acres. It will be seen, however, that only about one-half of such grant would affect actual value, as there are vast regions of sandy and volcanic desert, rock, and mountain. The conception is magnificent, and Mr. Benton supported his bill with great ability, sound argument, and fervid patriotism. Such measures will, doubtless, be adopted at no distant day, though not perhaps in the present Congress. Such a road, or rather such a system of roads, across the Continent, is alike required by the commerce of the world and the intercourse of mankind.

THE PAPAL AGGRESSION.  
MEETINGS.

The agitation on this subject draws towards a close, the public concluding probably, that it has done its part, and ought now to wait; but Parliament takes up the subject. From much of the agitation of modern times the nobility and clergy have stood so much aloof that it was surmised they had become totally adverse to all kinds of political agitation. The present agitation, which I am in general been originated by them, has demonstrated the error of this opinion, and has shown, while they have very naturally stood aloof from Christ and His ecclesiastical agents, that they only needed a fit occasion to make them take their place among the popular people. With them exclusively have County meetings originated, of which there are now upwards of twenty. Besides those already recorded we have now to add that—

**A MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF BIRMINGHAM** took place on Saturday last, in pursuance of a requisition signed by the Earl of Sandwich, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Duke of Manchester, the Earl of Abingdon, and nearly all the magnates of the county. The Court-house was densely crowded; a great proportion of the meeting consisted of the nobility and gentry. The Under-Sheriff, Mr. Lawrence, presided. The Earl of Sandwich, who made the requisition, said he thought county meetings were to be avoided; yet, if ever there was a time when the people of England were called upon to express their opinions firmly, though calmly, it was upon a question affecting their civil and religious liberty, and the Queen's supremacy. The resolution presented in the most decided manner against the recent assumption of power in this country by the Roman Pontiff and Jansenists to the feelings of the nobility and gentry of the kingdom. The Rev. Robert James McGhee, of Hollywell-com-Newdigate, wrote to the *Times*, Ives, in seconding the motion, entered at such length into a history of many of the bad parts of the Romish religion, that Earl Fitzwilliam, who moved a resolution declining the unchangeable attachment of the meeting to the principles of the Reformation, thought it necessary to say that it would have been better if none part of the rev. gentleman's speech had been omitted. A different opinion was expressed by other speakers; but there was no opposition to the resolutions. The Rev. James Leslie McGhee, to High Roding, Essex; the Rev. Archdeacon Wigram, to St. Mary's, Scambrough (to be divided); *Vicarsages*; the Rev. Edward Gurney, to St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich; the Rev. Mr. Holmes, to Enderby, Worcestershire; the Rev. Robert William Burton, to Willesden, Middlesex; the Rev. W. W. Pitman, to Wellington-cum-West Buckland.

**VACANCIES.**—Beckenham Rectory, Kent, archdeacon Canterbury; valued £900, with residence; patron, J. Cator, Esq.; Rev. A. Brandreth deceased. Dersingham Rectory, county, and diaconry, value £195; patron, Mr. Evans, Esq.; Rev. J. Lawrence promoted; Reverend Vicarage, Bedf ordshire, dia. dioc. £1000; Rev. Mr. John Parker, of Bedford, Rector, deceased. Reinhold Vicarage, Bedfordshire, dia. £1000; Rev. Mr. John Parker, of Bedford, Rector, deceased. St. Swithun's, Winchester, patron, J. T. Dawson, Esq.; Rev. A. J. Crean deceased. St. Silvers, Perpetual Curacy, Exeter; value £220; patron, Vicar of Heavestrie; Rev. F. Courtney deceased. Classical Mastership, Junior School, University College, London; salary, £300; application before Jan. 8.

**TESTIMONIALS.**—The following clergymen have recently received testimonial of thanks and regard:—The Rev. Charles White Underwood, from the congregation of St. Paul's, Coventry; Rev. Edward Exton, of which he was curate, on his resignation; the Rev. John Jones, A.M., upon his retirement from the incumbency of St. Andrew's Church, Liverpool; Rev. W. M. Coles, of Melton Mowbray, from the parishioners; the Rev. W. Birley, from the parishioners of Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

The Rev. Richard Burgess, B.D., Rector of Upper Chelsea, has been appointed a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral.

**THE RECTORY OF ST. MARY'S, SOUTHAMPTON.**—This valuable Rectory recently vacated by the resignation of the Earl of Guilford, has been presented by the Bishop of the diocese to the Venerable Archdeacon Bentinck (not Wrangham, as stated by a contemporary last week), who will shortly enter on the incumbency.

**NEW CHURCHES IN WESTMINSTER.**—The Bishop of London has given instructions to the contractors of the new church now being erected in Peter-street, Westminster, to push forward the works, in order that it may be ready for consecration early in the ensuing spring, by which time it is expected that the church will be begged by the lady of the Honourable Archdeacon Bentinck at Vauxhall-hill, who will be ready. Active foundations-stones of both churches were laid on the same day (Nov. 8, 1849); it is intended, if possible, to consecrate them on the same day.

**PUSYISM IN LEEDS.**—The Bishop of Ripon is taking very decided measures for checking the prevalent pusyism in this district. Some days ago the incumbent of Shadwell was ordered to desist from certain papal practices in his church, and during the past week the still more notorious St. Saviour's Church has been frequently visited by his Excellency. He has issued a circular to the clergy of the diocese, forbidding all interference with the management of an intolerant and persecuting spirit.

The Parochial Council of Leeds have agreed to the address to the Queen, in which they say, “accusing with their brethren at Leeds, probably expressing pretty nearly the opinions of the bulk of the Dissenters.”

We are desirous to maintain, in all its integrity and impartiality, the exercise of civil and religious liberty. — witness with grief the injurious effects in Ireland of the tyrannical Establishment; unrighteously imposed on eight millions of people—several millions of whom are Catholics, who have given over their perversions from the English Church to the Church of Rome, and who have lost the sympathies of many of the clergy, who are leading their flocks “step by step to the verge of the precipice.” We disapprove of the State patronage which has been given to Romanism, the grant to Maynooth, of grants to Roman Catholic Bishops in our colonies, and, indeed of all grants of public monies for religious purposes to either Catholic or Protestant; and we humbly hope that your Majesty will withdraw protection from all further grants for such purpose, and disown all such religious teachers who hold honestly the Protestant principles of the Reformation.

At ASBURY, DERBYSHIRE, on Monday, at a public meeting of the inhabitants, where one of the usual addresses was moved, a Mr. C. J. Welsh proposed an amendment condemning the tendency of modern legislation to give countenance to Pusyism. The appointment of Catholics to offices was one of the circumstances he most dwelt on. His motion, however, was unsuccessful, though the meeting seemed to acquiesce in his arguments; and the address, without the alteration, was carried.

## EVENTS.

**MR. BENNETT.**—More correspondence has taken place between the Bishop of London and the leaders of Mr. Bennett's congregation. It has been published, and bears the strongest testimony to the zealous and successful exertions in his office. But the result of that and of further communication between the two parties is, that the rev. gentleman has declared that he had not remained at all, and that it was not in his intention to return. The Bishop insists that he had resigned, and must give up his two curacies. Mr. Bennett, supported by his friends, now opposes it, is said, the authority of the Bishop; and measures have been taken by the Bishop of London, under the 3rd and 4th Vic., cap. 6, secs. 3 and 4, to give effect to his own order. The case will go to the Arches Court; and Mr. Bennett and his friends, it is said, are determined to fight the battle in every court to which they can appeal.

Mr. Donisthorpe has, it is stated, placed his resignation in the hand of the Bishop of London.

## DOCUMENTS.

**THE ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH** (Doctor and Lord John Beresford), in reply to an address from 132 clergymen of his diocese, states that it would be strange if the Irish branch of the United Church, which has suffered so much from similar exercise of the usurped power of the Pope, were to look on silent inience, while the English branch is resisting so resolutely the intrusion of a new power into their borders. The introduction, he says, into England of a recently constituted Anti-Catholic Episcopate is regarded by the See of Armagh as an important means of advancing his cause. His Holiness, the Wiseman signing himself “Nicholas, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster,” is an assumption to which, unhappily, the Irish have been long accustomed, and an instance of which has been very recently furnished in the “Synodical Address” of the Queen's Colleges, bearing (in direct violation of the law of the State) the signature of “Paulus, Cardinal Prince of All Ireland and Delegate of the Apostolic See.” He now joins the *Archbishop of Armagh* in denouncing that Ireland shall not be excluded from a participation in whatever defensive measures may be adopted for the purpose of protecting Great Britain against the encroachments and usurpations of the Bishop of Rome, and that any interference with the Royal prerogative shall be equally discomfited in both countries.

The **BISHOP OF KILMORAN, ELPHIN, AND ARDAGH** (Dr. Delany) has informed us of an address from 132 clergymen of his diocese, which he has submitted to the Board of Trade, to the election of local marine boards, to the granting of certificates of service and of competency to persons who were connected with the service. The 1st of January has been fixed for the operation of the new regulations, and the 1st of February for the election of local marine boards, ship, desertion, discipline, log-books, payment of wages, and discharge of seamen, in regard to such ships as are in the United Kingdom, and to the owners and crews thereof; and with respect to such ships as are not within the United Kingdom on that day, and to the owners, masters, mates, and crews thereof, as soon after the first subsequent arrival of such ship in the United Kingdom before the expiration of the first voyage or return-journey from any place thereto.

Among the requisitions now enforced, one requiring that no incoming ship shall proceed to sea without the production of the certificates of master and mates as to their competency. Each seaman is to have nine superficial feet on board, properly constructed. Agreements are to be made with seamen, and to contain particulars as to the voyage and payment of wages; indeed every precaution seems to have been taken to improve the condition of persons engaged in the service.

**THE THREATENED STRIKE ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.**—On this subject it is stated that the authorities of the London and North-Western Railway company expect a great deal of good feeling from men from various portions of the line, and many of them, it appears, do not share the spirit of concession prevail on the northern division, where the strike first took place. It has been already stated that the directors never contemplated the slightest alteration with reference to the men engaged under the locomotive department of the southern division of the line, but, in reference to the northern, they still adhere to the three months' notice; and, with a view to conciliating the men, they have agreed to a compromise, by which the engine-drivers and firemen of that division are compelled, the following month, to be paid in full, and each man called upon to sign his signature thereto.

London and North-Western Railway.—Northern Division, Engine Works, Crewe.—Do you desire to confide in the service of the company, subject to the existing regulations? and do you withdraw your objections to the three months' notice, and in regard to all new working?—

Nearly every man to whom the foregoing questions have been put on the northern division, it is stated, has subscribed their signature to the declaration of “I agree to the above”; and it is further added that so many of the old hands have withdrawn, and have returned to their old employment on other enter-

taining departments of the southern division of the line, but, in reference to the northern, they still adhere to the three months' notice; and, with a view to conciliating the men, they have agreed to a compromise, by which the engine-drivers and firemen engaged at the Camden-town and other stations on the southern division of the London and North-Western Railway, beg to express their satisfaction with the regulations at present existing on their division of the line, independently of the notice given to the men.

On Thursday evening, at a meeting of the engine-drivers and firemen engaged at the Camden-town and other stations on the southern division of the London and North-Western Railway, beg to express their satisfaction with the regulations at present existing on their division of the line, independently of the notice given to the men.

The directors of the East and West India Docks, with a view to encourage the import trade of the port of London, have unanimously resolved to reduce the rate on indigo, tea, cotton, rice, rinn, &c., so as to effect a saving of £100,000 per annum.

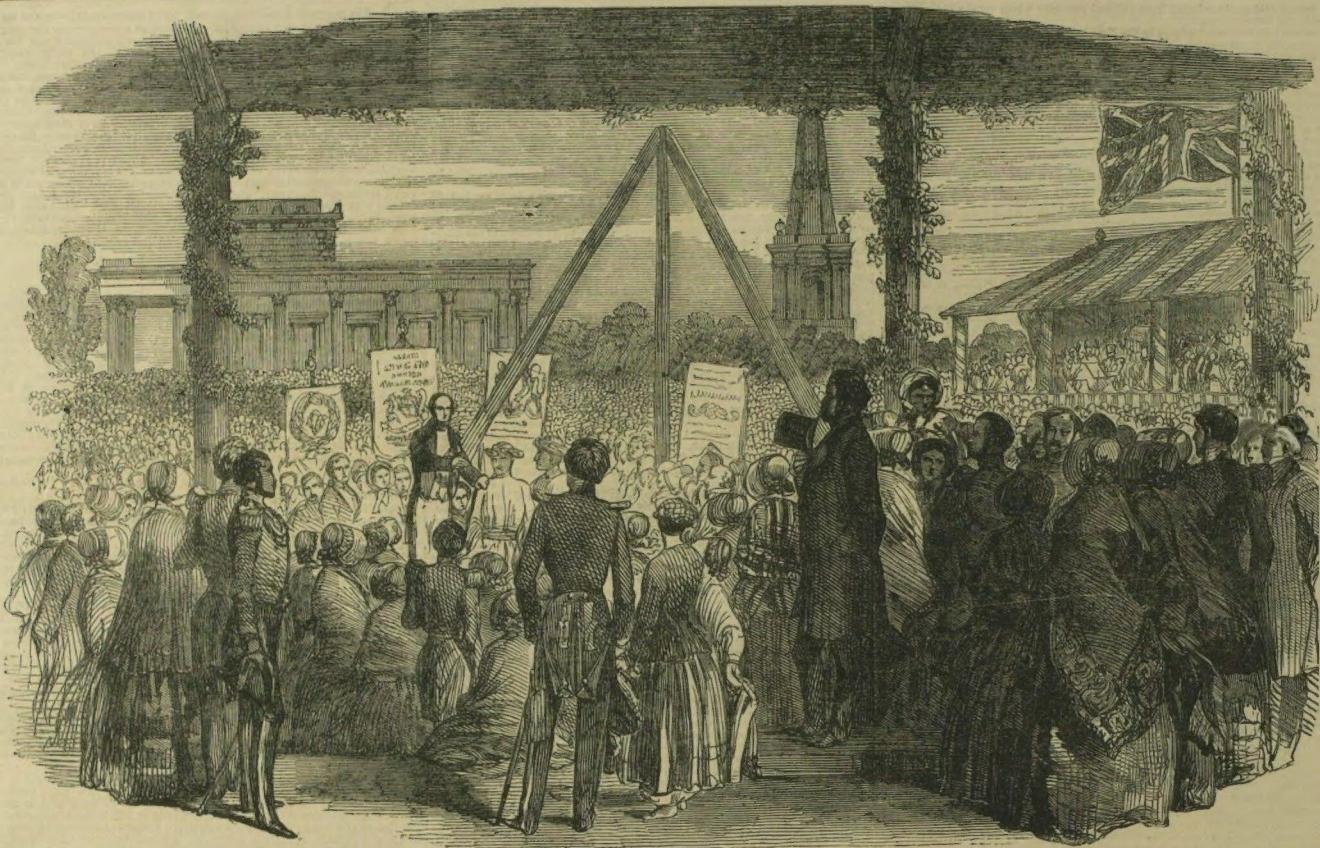
The London and St. George's Dock Company will, it is understood, join in these reductions, making the total saving not less than £300,000 per annum.

The estates of the undermentioned nobility, clergy, and gentry, lately deceased, have paid probate duty on their personal effects on the amounts following:—Marquis de Talarn £10,000, Lord William de la Poer Beresford £20,000, Marchioness Cornwallis £20,000, Sir E. G. Stanhope £14,000, Sir T. Cartwright £25,000, Sir W. Kaye £20,000, the Bishop of Novara £20,000, the Rev. Frederick Gurney £15,000, Dr. S. Evans £10,000, Dr. T. Colyer £10,000, Rev. H. Price £12,000, T. Denys £10,000, J. Cowles £20,000, Dr. Thomas £25,000, T. G. Fanner £20,000, J. Rydes £25,000, and M. R. da Silva £20,000. The estates of the Earl of Darwen and Viscount Falkland have also been administered.

On Saturday morning an accident occurred at the building in Hyde-park. A man, named Smith, was at work at one of the gutters, when he fell into the water. He was picked up in a senseless state, and conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where it was discovered that both his legs were fractured, and his head having come in contact with a projection of the framework, one of his eyeballs was dreadfully injured; but notwithstanding these and other injuries great hopes are entertained of his recovery.

On Friday night Mr. F. Calvert, Q.C., was returned M.P. for Aylesbury, by a majority of 459 to 497 over his opponent, Mr. Houghton, a tenant-farmer.

**ZERIF, PASILA OF ALEPO.**  
The present Pasha of Aleppo is a man of no ordinary qualifications for an Oriental: never educated or much in society—from which a man of even natural abilities may be expected to acquire new ideas.—Is he indebted to his own shrewd abilities and application to business in the various subordinate departments through which he worked his way slowly, but patiently and perseveringly? or is his real efficiency derived from opportunities to make those opportunities to express his talents with a very clear and open mind? His qualifications for a higher and more important official position than that he occupied before. He was, therefore, after filling several less important appointments in different portions of the Sublime Ottoman provinces in Turkey, in Europe and Asia, nominated to Aleppo, not very long since; and up to the period of his recent error in judgment as regards the outbreak in that Pashalic, nothing could have been more creditable than his discharge of the high and arduous duties of



FOUNDING OF A HINDOO FEMALE SCHOOL IN CORNWALLIS-SQUARE AT CALCUTTA.

his office, towards all sects and classes. Indeed, the Jew and Gentile population had every reason to congratulate themselves on his discharge of the duties of his office, in every instance in which their respective interests were brought before him. At his able and judicious administration was a great blessing to the country at large; and no doubt his efficiency as a former Pasha, and his judicious discharge of his duties, will obtain for him the marked notice and favourable recommendation of the representatives of Europe at the Porte, and that we shall soon be enabled to announce his nomination and promotion to some equally important department as that from which he has been only disposed from the necessity of the moment. We must recollect he had not adequate powers at his command at the time, and his services were rendered in a spirit towards the rest who were appointed on the same principle, and he only hoped thereby to so far disperse the evil-disposed off their guard, and keep them in abeyance more by kind words than by threats of intimidation, which he and they knew he had not the means to put into execution, until reinforced from other military depots, or from Constantinople. It is now fully admitted, that he adopted any other course, the loss of life and property to all sects, Jew and Gentile, would have been much more, and, probably, the city and castle have fallen into the hands of the rebels and Bedouins.

The first instructions given by Scobleine Highness Abd-el-Medjid—that all civil and military officers throughout the Ottoman dominions should take an oath to disconveniences, directly and indirectly, any means hitherto known whereby bribery or corrupt means was known to be had recourse to, so as to interfere with the due discharge of their respective functions, by the heads or subordinates of the different departments of the kingdom—have had a most salutary effect, and have already worked great good for the Turkish Empire. The very apprehension of such penalties, on the one hand, and the cases of fraud and embeasement detected and punished, have worked a great change. This was very remarkable in the cases inquired into at Damascus lately. Said Pasha, the brother-in-law of the Sultan, punished severely some persons who were found guilty of having to a large amount defrauded the Porte in past years; they were put in prison, and their ill-acquired gains confiscated or transferred to the public treasury. It is a pity that Said Pasha is fanatical, for his other acts are much to his praise, and he has done much good;

Mohammedan, and collected by Moslem functionaries, he received in the respective provinces, and directly from the heads of the respective sects, Jews, Greeks, and Turks, along with one of the few instances of disagreement and dissension hitherto between the Moslems and other sects.

The following is the latest intelligence:—The *Lloyd's* states that the conscription at Damascus has terminated without any further disturbances. It is now going on at Hama and Hamah. The newly-appointed Governor of Aleppo has just arrived at Beyrouth; he has collected 5000 troops, and intends to proceed to the place of his destination attended by this corps.—Damascus, Dec. 5th.—The Christians and Jews are still living in mutual apprehension, lest the Moslem population should exercise similar cruelties over them as recently in Aleppo; but their apprehensions are gradually subsiding in consequence of the active measures which the authorities are adopting. 5000 more troops will embark at Alexandria, to reinforce the garrison of that city. A public road is being laid made from Beyrouth to Damascus."

#### FOUNDATION OF A HINDOO FEMALE SCHOOL AT CALCUTTA.

This very interesting ceremony depicted in the accompanying Illustration, (from a Sketch by an obliging Correspondent), took place at Calcutta on Tuesday evening, the 6th of November. The scene is Cornwallis-square, where a School for the Education of Hindoo Females is now building by the Hon. Drinkwater Bethune. The first stone was laid by the Hon. Sir John Littler, the Master of the Masonic Lodge, who assisted by a large assembly of Masonic brethren, and the Bishop of Calcutta, with a great number of Government officers, and a numerous assembly of native gentlemen, in the presence of a vast concourse of natives, and of almost all the Europeans in Calcutta. The scene was truly picturesque; and the event is important for the influence it is likely to have on the future destinies of native society.

Sir John Littler first arrived, and, shortly afterwards, the masonic body marched from the General Assembly's Institution to the site of the intended school. The square was crowded with spectators, and the procession was halted, the masons opening to the right and left, and facing, however, so as to leave room for the officiating Grand Master, preceded by his standard and sword-bearer, to pass up the centre, followed by the rest, so as to invert the order of procession. When the Grand Master arrived, he received the plans of the building from the builder, Mr. Grey, and presented them to Sir John Littler and the rest of the company for their inspection. The inscription on the plate was then read by the Grand Master, who requested Sir John Littler to descend from the platform, in order to assist at the ceremony, presenting him, at the same time with the stone to be used, a small vessel containing a quantity of cement, and two bottles, containing coins and records of the present reign, in carvings prepared for them in the lower part of the stone. The plate was then placed in its bed by Sir J. Littler, the cement was applied, and the stone let down slowly to solemn music. The Grand Master next proved the stone by the square, level, and plumb-rule, which were successively handed to him by the Grand Wardens; after which the Grand Master said—“May the Grand Architect of the universe bless this foundation-stone, which we have laid, and may it be blessed by His providence, to perfect this and other virtuous undertakings.” The cornucopia and cup of wine and oil were then handed to the Grand Master as before, who, having poured them on the stone, said—“May the bounteous author of all good bless this city with abundance of corn, wine, and oil, and with all other necessities and comforts of life.”

Since are the principal details of the ceremony; but we should add, that the officiating Grand Master addressed the company, pointing out the great object for which the institution was intended by its founder—namely, the education of Hindoo females, hitherto kept in ignorance and behind yurdales (*i.e.* within the walls of the houses), and altogether reduced to the level of domesticity.

The Hon. Mr. Bethune, addressing himself to the Deputy Governor, the Bishop, and the company in general, alluded in strong and feeling terms to the conduct of Baboo Dokhanramun Mookerjee, and the intelligence and spirit displayed by him in his endeavours to this root of evil. This native gentleman expressed to Mr. Bethune his admiration of the thoughts of the rich gentry of his country should have so small a share in a great national undertaking like the present, expressing his own readiness to advance the cause to the utmost of his power. He at once made a gift to Mr. Bethune, of sufficient land as a site for the proposed school, and which was, after some additional purchases, exchanged for the present more commodious area. Mr. Bethune proceeded to say, that that day they had seen the possibility of a land symbolical of even by the delivery of a young “Asoka” tree, that the “true wisdom” was, from the gracefulness of its foliage, the surpassing beauty of its flowers, and its high estimation among Hindoo women, an appropriate representation of such an institution as he wished to found. He added—that tree was doubly hallowed by its connexion with the name of Sir William Jones, and ought to be held, not only in Calcutta, but in the villages around, as a symbol of female education, “a new tree of liberty to remain us, and a symbol of deliverance, which will be the tree which witnesseth a marked and happy progress in this matter of female education, and a decided elevation in the position of the women of this land in the scale of social existence.” Such is an imperfect summary of this eloquent speech, which concluded with a feeling invocation to the Almighty to protect the work that had been so auspiciously begun, and to grant His blessing on the infant institution.

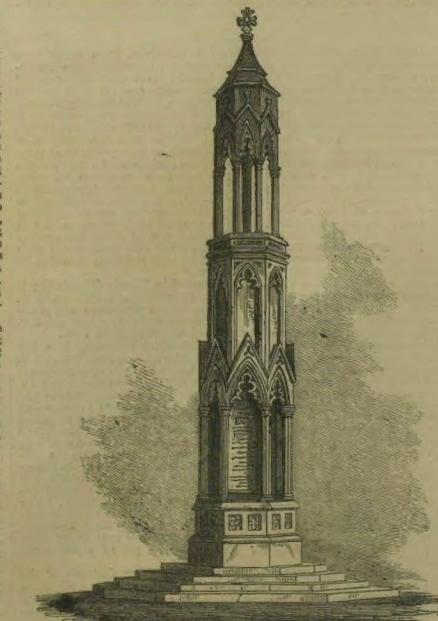
In the *Friend of India*, whence we quote these details, it is observed that Mr. Bethune has sown a seed which will one day bear noble fruit, and that he has chosen the best possible time for the operation. “For years

there has been a movement in native society, before which ancient prejudice are rapidly melting away; and, although we occasionally observe extraordinary religious revivals in particular localities, and among particular individuals, the general tendency of the mass is clearly against orthodoxy. The great obstacle to permanent advancement has hitherto been the entirely civilised character of the female portion of native society, which tends to weaken, to a great extent, the liberal principles imbibed by the young at our great Colleges. This evil will be remedied by native female education; and to this great work Mr. Bethune has addressed himself with an earnestness and liberality which do credit alike to his judgment and his heart.”

We are informed that the building of the School will cost Mr. Bethune the large sum of £5000. Our Illustrious Correspondent, hon. gentleman addressing the assemblage at the foundation, on November 6; next to him is the charitable native who has given the site for the School; around them are the decorated Brethren of the Masonic Lodges, with their banners; and the variegated tent contains the musicians of the 70th Regiment. The time is just after sunset; red and blue lights are burning, and throwing the crowd into mystic effect; and the tent in the foreground is filled with company, including officers in uniform, natives in turbans, or white, blue, and red scull-caps; altogether presenting an impressive spectacle.

#### MONUMENT TO THE LATE SIR EARDLEY WILMOT, BART.

The colonists of Van Diemen's Land, in testimony of their sense of the mild government of the late Sir Eardley Wilmot, Bart., have lately erected, at Hobart Town, the Memorial engraved below. The design closely resembles the Eleanor Memorial crosses of the mother country. It bears the following inscription—



MONUMENT TO THE LATE SIR EARDLEY WILMOT, BART.

Underneath are deposited the remains of  
SIR JOHN EARDLEY EARDLEY WILMOT, BART.,  
Of the Honourable East India Company of Warwick,  
Late Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony of Van Diemen's Land;

For many years

Member of Parliament for North Warwickshire, and Chairman of the Quarter Sessions of the County of Warwick.

Born on the 21st February, 1783.

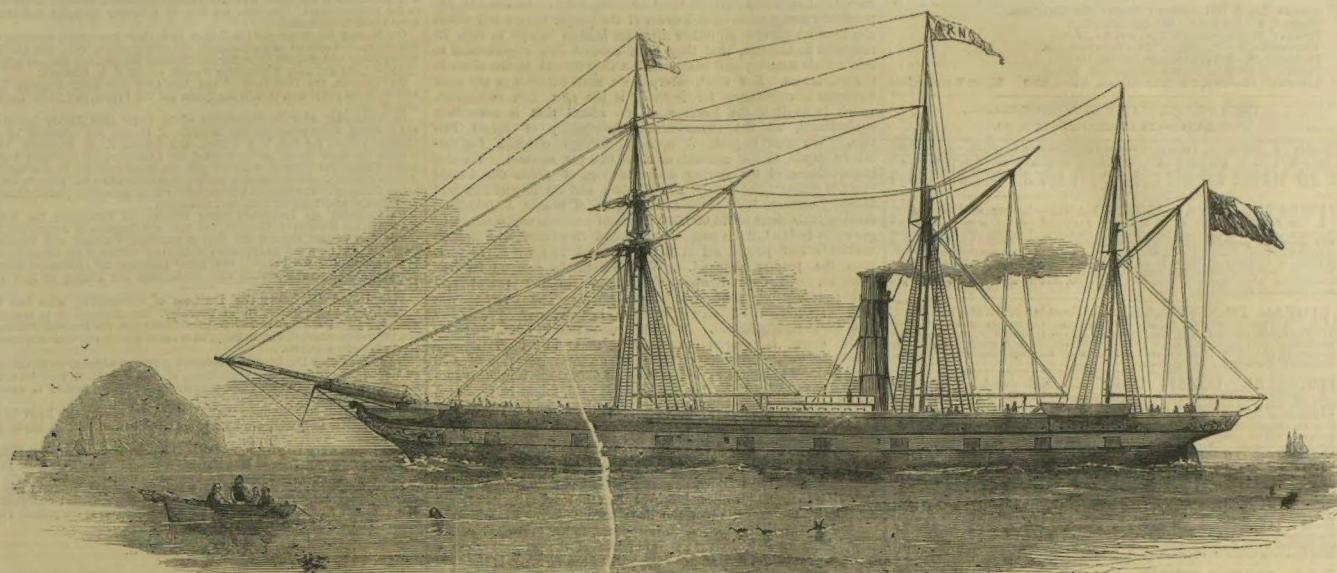
Died on the 27th January, 1851.

This Monument is erected as a mark of respect to his Memory.  
By public subscription, in the year of our Lord  
MDCCCL.



THE PACHA OF ALEppo.

but his conduct on a recent occasion is highly censurable. The census of Aleppo has already been given in our number of December 7th. The appointment of the late Turkish Ambassador in London to Aleppo must be very desirable, for, judging from his past conduct, we feel satisfied that he goes to his new field of usefulness with every disposition to do his duty impartially and efficiently, and to the full satisfaction of the agents of gods, native and European. The active measures now pursued by the Porte speak well for the future; and the new law just put in force will do much good, and give general satisfaction. It is now reported that the taxation, or Poll-tax hitherto levied on the different sects not



THE SCREW STEAMER "ARNO," FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN.

## STEAM TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

The accompanying steam-vessel, the *Arno*, just built by Messrs. Reid and Wood, of Port-Glasgow, is stated to be the finest screw steam-ship, in appearance, size, and speed, that has ever appeared in Liverpool, where this description of steamer is fast monopolising the Mediterranean trade.

The *Arno* is a beautiful specimen of Clyde ship-building. She is a tautly sparred three-masted schooner, rigged man-of-war fashion. Her funnel is cream-coloured, and she has painted ports, which give her hull a light appearance, and make her look more like a sailing vessel than a screw-boat. She has a very handsome stem, terminating in a scroll figure-head, and chastely adorned with carved work. Her quarter is a *chef d'œuvre* of ship-building art, and each gallery is ornamented with a medallion, emblematic of the rise of the river Arno. Her stern is decorated with an elegant device, the name of the Liverpool, at the centre, and surrounded by the motto, "Truth in every ray." Her lines are beautifully treated with a sharp entrance and clean run, combined with a fullness at the waist, give her that rounded side which all handsome vessels must possess. Her deck accommodations are very compact, and have been arranged with an eye to utility in working the ship. Over her main and after hatches she has two well-wrought iron cranes for the purpose of landing or receiving cargo, and by which the boats can be lowered, at any moment. She has a fine quarter-deck, upwards of sixteen feet long, on which are the main guns. The saloon is large, airy, and well lighted on deck. Her cabins are very roomy, and ornamented with taste and elegance. The walls of her saloon are of painted oak, surmounted by a chaste moulding, relieved with floral carved brackets, all richly gilt. The doors of her state rooms are of highly polished oak, the upper panels decorated with a chaste design in fretwork, backed by crimson satin. Her saloon sofas are upholstered in rich crimson-coloured figured velvet, and are ranged in a circular form in the corners, which is very amply its proportion. The other cabin and staterooms are fitted in similar style. Her plates, services of massive silver, all the large pieces of which, as also her stone-work, are marked with the ship's name in a novel and artistic device, emblematic of the rise of the river from she takes her name. The light is admitted to the saloon from two cupola sky-lights, with frosted panes, which will subdue the glare of the sun when in more southern climates. Throughout the ship, ventilation and utility appear to have been properly attended to. The *Arno*'s dimensions are length over all, 200 feet; beam, 30 feet; depth of hold, 12 feet; and tonnage, 400 tons. Her engines are 150 horse-power, on the direct action principle, made by Messrs. Thomson, of Clyde Bank foundry. The *Arno* is commanded by Captain G. H. Haran, a gentleman who was for some time connected with the British and North American Royal mail steamers, and who has also had considerable experience in the Mediterranean, having served the early part of his profession on those waters. She is the property of Messrs. John Bibby and Sons, and other parties in Liverpool, under the title of the Liverpool and Mediterranean Steam-Ship Company, and will be despatched for Italy and Sicily in a few days.

On Saturday, the *Arno* made her trial trip from Greenock to Liverpool, with upwards of 600 tons dead weight of coal on board. The following were the results:—She moved ahead shortl after four o'clock, the paddle-steamer *Admiral*

having a start of about a mile. Passed the Cloch Light at 4h. 22m., and ran from there to the Cumbrae Light in 1 hour and 16 minutes, the distance being sixteen miles, and this against rather a head wind. Ailsa Craig was made at 5h. 22m., and her course being now a little more southerly, the wind, which was then W.N.W., began to blow a little stronger, so that the *Mull* Light was reached at 11h. 40m. She was abreast the point of Ayr Light by 1h. 50m., and stopped off the Bell Buoy at 5h. 15m. A.M. on Sunday the *Admiral* easing for the same purpose just five minutes before, being hardly three-quarters of a mile a-head. Here the *Arno* had to wait more than half-an-hour for want of water, and in the meantime the *Astrologer*, from Constantinople, came up, and drawing less water, passed over the bar about a mile a-head. The *Arno* moved on after her at ten minutes to nine, and headed her before she reached the *Crosby* Light-ship, sailed up to the Slaty, and then returned to its off Cleasby Pier until tide-time, having run the distance from Greenock to the Bell-buoy in sixteen hours and a quarter—an unprecedented passage for a screw-boat.

## SCENE IN GILTPUR-STREET.

A CHARGE of frightful cruelty to a servant-girl has recently been the subject of a most painful magisterial examination at Guildhall, by Mr. Alderman Humphrey. The person charged with this revolting conduct is Mr. Sloane, a special pleader, residing in the Middle Temple; and the servant, Jane Wibred, formerly an inmate of the West London Union. The report of this case we have reserved until the trial. The committal of the accused, on Friday last (December 27), gave rise to a burst of popular vengeance, which is here illustrated, for the more emphatically conveying our reprobation of a species of "Lynch Law," which, by acts of terrific violence, would pronounce condemnation before trial. The disgraceful incident represented in the Engraving occurred in the conveyance of Mr. Sloane from the police-office, at Guildhall, to the Compter, in Giltpur-street. The details are as follow:—

Great difficulty was experienced as to how Mr. Sloane should be removed in safety, as the mob seemed rather to be increasing, with the desire to see a man who had rendered himself so singularly notorious. Various expedients were suggested, and a person was despatched to obtain a cab in some part remote from Guildhall, and to drive round by Moorgate-street and Fore-street into Basinghall-street, and then wait at the church; and, in the meantime, it was arranged that several policemen were to guard the magistrates' entrance and keep back the crowd from the hall, while Mr. Sloane made a rush into the hall and effected his escape by the back way, to where the cab was waiting for him. This cab was kept waiting at the church for a short time, and was identified. Humphrey thought it impossible to have the crowd brought up to the door, which he had closed down. An officer was sent down to the Compter with instructions to the governor to have the door open, and everything prepared to afford defendant a ready reception on arriving there. The cab door was opened, and Mr. Sloane (who had only about three yards to go), accompanied by Springate, the gaoler, suddenly rushed out, and was endeavouring to force his

way into the cab, when the mob closed upon them, and, had it not been for the able exertions of Mr. Superintendent Hodgson, Mr. Roe, and about a dozen constables, Mr. Sloane would have been torn to pieces by the exasperated mob. One old woman, we noticed in particular, was making most furious charges at him with her hand, and, with great difficulty, Mr. Roe got him into the cab, but the crowd all pressed forward, and with such violence that both the windows of the vehicle were smashed to atoms, and mud, spittle, and all kinds of filth were showered upon him through both windows, so that in less than two minutes he was so bespattered that it was next to impossible to discover which was the gaoler and which Mr. Sloane. About twenty constables surrounded the cab, and the driver lashed his horse to try and escape the rabble, but they impeded his way so much that he was unable to move at any but a snail-like pace. The policeman endeavoured to block up the windows by standing on the steps of the cab; but, in spite of their exertions, the gaoler received a smart blow on the face, which was intended for Mr. Sloane. Through some mistake, the vehicle was directed to the Old Bailey, where a crowd of some thousands awaited its coming, and, by the time the cab arrived opposite the Compter in Giltpur-street, the road and every place where standing-room was to be obtained was crowded with one mass of human heads. The policeman who had stood on the steps of the cab, was struck in the head very freely on stopping at the door of the prison; and Mr. Sloane, as soon as the cab door was opened, made one bound on to the pavement, three more took him into the middle of the lobby, and the gate closed behind him, much to the disappointment of the people outside. Shouts, yellings, groans, and every imaginable expression of disgust and horror were reiterated by the crowd on the way from the court to the Compter; and even when Sloane was safely inside, they ringed the bell, shouting, "Lynch him!" and called out to the mob to turn Sloane out among them, and they would give him what he deserved. Six policemen remained in front of the door for some time, as it was feared that it would not be safe to leave the front door guarded only by the gaoler.

On Saturday Mr. Hamber, the messenger to the Court of Bankruptcy, reported to the court that a bankrupt, named Ephraim Godbolt, had died raving mad that morning. Ephraim and George Godbolt were builders and carpenters, at 14 and 15, College-walk, Chelsea, and on Thursday last were made bankrupts. Notices of adjudication were served upon the bankrupts on Friday evening; and the fact of having been made a bankrupt produced such a shock upon the nervous system that he expired in a state of raving madness on Saturday morning.

On Saturday night, some expert thieves effected an entrance, it is supposed by means of skeleton keys, into the premises 28, Craven-street, Strand. They removed a large iron chest from its position, and it is conjectured that their efforts to break it open proved fruitless, as they carried off that and its contents, £65 in gold, £31 10s. in silver, several Bank of England notes, and a £5 note of the Old Sumner Bank.

The amount of coinage at the Philadelphia Mint for the month of November, exceeded 4,000,000 dollars. The capabilities of the establishment may be extended to the coinage of 8,000,000 dollars monthly.



CONVEYANCE OF MR. SLOANE TO GILTPUR STREET COMPTER.



## POSTSCRIPT.

## THE PAPAL AGGRESSION.

The *Times* says—An erroneous impression appears to have gone abroad that the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett is induced to make a sacrifice of resigning his living. We have authority to state that it is not the case; and, as soon as we are made acquainted with the facts, we are assured that the rev. gentleman will be ready to complete his resignation. We believe, however, that great dissatisfaction prevails among a large number of his two congregations on the ground that the condition of the resignation have not been strictly fulfilled.

A LARGE COUNTY MEETING, to protest against the recent assumption of authority by the Bishop of Rome, was held in the County Hall, Oxford, on Saturday, last. It was presided over by the Marquess of Abingdon, the Earl of Marlborough, the Earl of Abingdon, the Earl of Macclesfield, Sir H. J. Lambert, Bart., and many of the leading gentry and freeholders of the county. The resolutions were moved and seconded by the Marquess of Blandford, Mr. Walter Strickland, Col. North, Col. Dawkins, Mr. Hochart Clarke, Mr. Husley, M.P., and Mr. Langston, M.P. Mr. Faulkner moved an amendment to the first resolution, praying her Majesty to separate herself from the Pope, State, but in favour of the Pope. Mr. Blackstone, M.P., proposed an amendment to leave the word "laty" out of the address, which attributed to them, in common with the clergy, the introduction of principles and practices inconsistent with the Protestant faith. Alderman Sadler seconded the amendment, which was carried, thus exonerating the laty with the amendment. The address, one of the usual kind, to her Majesty, was agreed to.

**DIVIDEND DAY AT THE BANK, &c.**—Notice was issued on Thursday at the Bank of England, that the ordinary dividends will be paid on the 1st instant, and the transfer books for the consolidated annuities will be opened as follows:—Consolidated Three per Cent., on Thursday the 16th instant; Three per Cent. Annuites, 1726, on Tuesday, the 14th instant; New Five per Cent. Annuites, on Tuesday, the 14th instant; Annuites for Terms of Years, on Thursday, the 16th instant. South Sea House: The dividends will be in course of payment on the 8th instant; and the transfer books opened on Thursday, the 16th instant. Royal Exchange House: The dividends on East India Stock will be paid on Monday next, the 6th instant; and the transfer books opened on Thursday, the 16th instant.

**GOVERNMENT CLERKS.**—A re-classification of the officials in some of the departments at Somerset House has just been made known. By the new arrangements facilities are presented for the advancement of those clerks whose talents for public business, diligence, and industry deserve special notice; and it is understood that the claim of seniority will in future pass unregarded unless supported by a certificate referred to. Reading the "newspapers" by the clerks during office hours is expressly prohibited by the terms of the Treasury order metropolis at Somerset House.

**MEDICAL RELIEF FOR JAMAICA.**—Amongst the passengers by the steamer *Essex*, which left Southampton on Thursday, with the West India mail, were the following surgeons and physicians, sent out by Government to Jamaica, on account of the cholera in that island, viz., Drs. Tucker, Beviridge, and Joseph Brown; and Messrs. Campbell, Crawford, and Murphy. The following medical inspectors were sent out, viz., Drs. Gaskin, Addison, and Dr. C. D. Williams, who on their arrival will be placed under the command of the India-station, where he had been serving on board her Majesty's ship *Imperial*, volunteered to go out again. About sixty or seventy cases, cases, and packages of medicines were sent out to Jamaica by private merchants, and between forty and fifty by Government.

## LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

## FRANCE.

The accounts of yesterday (Friday) from Paris present no news of interest. With respect to the affair of M. Manguin, we learn that M. Cheron, at whose suite M. Manguin was arrested, has sent in a claim to the director of the prison of Cléry for damages, in consequence of the irregular discharge of his debtor. M. Cheron does not appear to be inclined to allow the question of law to remain in the state in which it has been placed by the Assembly.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

**THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS.**—During the recess the workmen have been actively employed in preparing the permanent roof to the new House of Commons. When the new house was first occupied members, neither the members nor the reporters could hear distinctly what was said, and, in consequence, Mr. Barry constructed several temporary roofs to overcome the difficulty. Before the prorogation of Parliament, Mr. Barry had determined, it is stated, on making a permanent roof, after the temporary model which had been found to answer, and that permanent roof is now almost finished. It rises from the middle of the windows with a high pitch, and is finished in the first instance with a leaded glass roof, and a sloping appearance, in keeping with the other portions of the building. On each side of the house new galleries and division lobbies are being prepared, and a handsome and elegant waiting-room is in course of fitting up in the cloisters. The new house is permanently to be taken possession of when the House meets after the Easter recess, and will, we hope, be ready for the session of 1851. Several important alterations are being made in the approaches to the house, which will be finished, will contribute to the comfort and convenience of members, and give a pleasing and finished appearance to the Commons portion of the new palace.

**Female Orphan Asylum.**—A general court of the guardians and committee of this institution was held on Thursday, at the Asylum, Westminster-road; Mr. Charles Evans in the chair. It appeared that the number of children admitted since the commencement of the institution, in 1798, had been 2,000, and that 1,000 of these were still in the Asylum. Of the 1,000 still in the Asylum, 3 were employed in the houses, and 16 were at present in the Asylum. Since the year 1798, 725 young women had publicly returned thanks and received five guineas reward each for having faithfully served their apprenticeship. After some discussion, it was resolved that a handsome tablet, to the memory of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who had been president of that institution for forty-five years, should be erected in the Chapel, and that a bust of the same should be placed in the Asylum.

**The Parochial Schools of St. Mary-le-Strand.**—The Rector, the Rev. J. Denham, has just issued a pastoral letter, in which we find the following satisfactory particulars regarding the parochial schools:—“I am sure that the unwearied interest which you have evinced during my pastoral relation to you of more than twenty years, in our various parochial schools, will render acceptable to you some remarks upon their present condition, and which, I hope to say, is prosperous in all respects. We may congratulate ourselves that a schoolroom has been erected in the new house, and that the wants of education in our parochial, infant, and Sunday-schools, to which I, upon a former occasion inquiry last year, accompanied by a parishioner, at every house, and, as far as practicable, at every abode of the poor, that out of 365 children between the ages of two and fourteen, there were 270 in distinct attendance at our various schools. Your own zeal and kindness, therefore, to your poor neighbour render unnecessary, at this present time, any legislative enactments for popular education. The best proof of the present system of education is the example of the schools, and of the teachers of the same, who are now devoting us (for more than half the children now in the parochial schools have passed through the infant-school, and the majority of the children in both these schools attend the Sunday-school) was pleasantly manifested in the course of those public catechisms of all the schools which I have held, throughout the greater portion of last year, in church, on Sunday afternoons. Permit me to bring again to your notice, and to express the desire that a new parochial school-house, &c., might be built on the piece of ground belonging to the parish which has long ago been disused for burials, and which I am assured by professional persons, might be rendered perfectly healthy and secure for the purpose. I have reason to hope that this valuable opportunity of providing for the accommodation of the schools, and of perpetuating your benevolence to the poor, as an example for future generations, will be speedily taken into the strenuous consideration of the trustees.”

**Royal Naval Hospital-Saint-Sixty.**—A special meeting of the subscribers of this society took place on Tuesday, at his Thatched House Inn, St. James's-street; the Right Hon. Lord Radstock presiding. His Lordship stated that the present meeting had been convened in consequence of the melancholy death of late secretary, Commander Dickson; and as there were no rules provided in this society for such a contingency, he thought it advisable to call them together for the purpose of adopting the necessary measures. He also informed the subscribers that the sum of £1000, which had been collected as regards registration, when the inmates were held, had been accounted for till the end of the quarter. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-50 the returns varied from 910 deaths in 1845, at a period of rather higher average temperature, to 1493 in 1848, when scurvy and typhus were rife, and cholera had begun; these epidemics having succeeded to the influenza of the former year. The following comparative statement of death at particular ages shows that, while the mortality of the young was not greater than usual in the last week, there was an excess above the average among persons of middle age:

FIRE AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—On Sunday afternoon, a body of flame was perceived rolling apparently from the Exhibition of California, on the first floor of this edifice. Three enginemen soon arrived, when the firemen from the engine-room, and the gas having taken place in the frame of the large transversely belonging to the Egyptian Hall, the engines of the diorama representing the Overland Route to California, it had caused the painting outside the building to become ignited, and the heat being so great, it melted the gas-pipes, and the flames eventually communicated with the wooden frame of the window, and broke a number of squares of glass. The firemen and police succeeded in soon extinguishing the fire, and before more damage was done than previously intended, with the exception of the destruction of the transverse pipes and glass, the loss was £100.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Births registered in London in the week ending Saturday, Dec. 28.—Males, 658; females, 712; total, 1370. Deaths during the same period—Males, 577; females, 619; total, 1196. The deaths in the first three weeks of December respectively were 1004, 1090, and 1165. This increase is considerable, and must be attributed, in part, to the character of the weather, which has been unfavourable to the public health; but, as in the previous week, there was no increase in the number of deaths, it may be inferred that the cause of the increase was the want of a sufficient number of deaths, which clearly accounted for death. Dr. Webb was of opinion that the time from the opening the basket, to the period of her death, about seventy-six hours, was sufficient for the formation of the matter; but it was very difficult to say. Some evidence was gone into as to the sordid of the hamper, but nothing positive was elicited. The coroner said he was not sure, if the party sending the hamper had done so in the right spirit; it would have produced death, he would not have been guilty of murder. There was no positive evidence what had produced the inflammation of the brain, and he must leave the cause to the jury. An open verdict was returned, that the deceased died of inflammation of the arachnoid membrane of the brain.

FOREIGN VINEGAR.—An importation of 100 casks of vinegar has taken place by a vessel from Boston, the manufacture of the United States of America. This article has not usually formed a portion of the cargoes of vessels from the United States. It is probable that this importation, as well as the recent numerous supplies of vinegar from France and other parts of the continent of Europe, may, in a great measure, be attributed to the recent privilege granted by the Treasury for foreign vinegar to be taken free of duty for the purpose of ships' stores.

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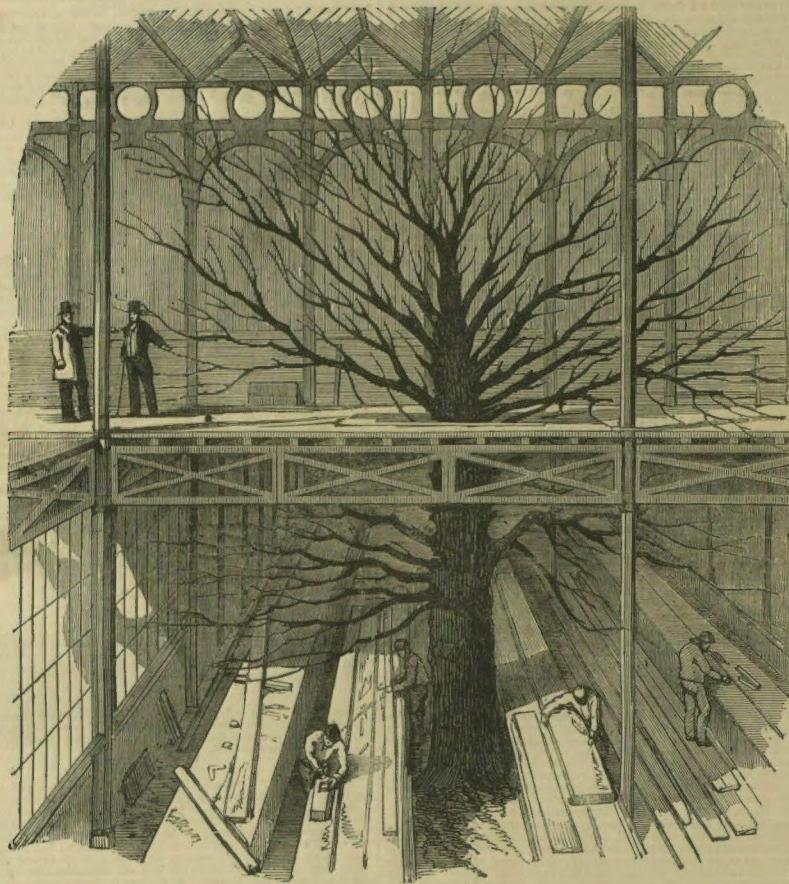
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ELM TREE IN THE SOUTH-WEST PORTION OF THE BUILDING.

area, is obtained, making altogether an area of flooring equal to about 23 acres.

In reference to the Galleries, Mr. Paxton, in his paper lately read before the Society of Arts, says:—"This extra space is suited for the display of light manufactured goods, and will also give a complete view of the whole of the articles exhibited, with an extensive view of the interior of the building."

Mr. Paxton proposes that powerful magnifying-glasses, on swivels, should be placed throughout the Galleries, at short distances, for commanding a more perfect general view of the Exhibition.

Over each of the Galleries adjoining the central aisle there is an additional tier of girders; so that if, at the eleventh hour, additional space be required, two galleries the whole length of the building may be added.

The flooring of all the Galleries consists of 1½-inch deal battens, grooved and iron-tongued: these battens are each 7 inches in width, and are firmly nailed on to the joists, which have a scantling of 7 inches by 2½ inches, and fixed at intervals from centre to centre of 2 feet 6½ inches; trusses are introduced transversely, at intervals of 8 feet

which are 7 inches square, consisting of two pieces, separated by a space of 2 inches, in which space are introduced 1½-inch tension rods, passing through eyes formed in cast-iron saddles, the ends of the tension-rods being screwed up to cast-iron shoes. Longitudinal bearers, 9 inches in depth by 8½ inches in width, extend under the joists throughout, supported at either end by a bracket resting on the cross girder.

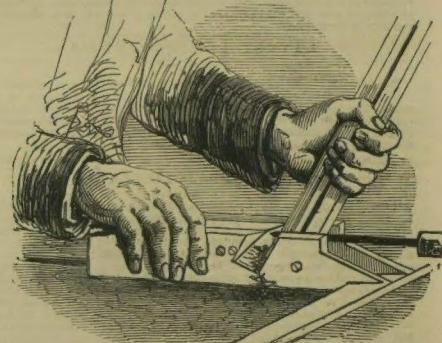
The external sides of the Galleries are enclosed with vertical deal sashes, each 15 feet 2 inches in height, by 7 feet 6 inches in width; occupying the spaces between the deal framed intermediate columns and the iron columns, respectively. The glass in these sashes is the same as that used for the skylights. There are eight squares in width, and each square is 49 inches high, weighing nearly 53½ oz. In order to guard against the injurious effects of storms against so large a surface of glass, exposed to wind and rain, the upright panes are tied together by three round iron tie-rods; and strengthening pieces of deal 7 feet 7 inches long by 1½-inch thick, and of segmental form on the edge, are screwed to the sides of the sashes. The sashes are secured to the columns by three iron clamps to each column.

The water from the adjoining skylights is carried into the "Paxton" gutters, fixed between the lower parts of the columns; and, by the introduction of cast-iron rain-water heads fixed round each column, with opening from the gutters, the water finds its way into the transverse trough gutters, which, being furnished with false bottoms, have a full inclination towards the tops of the hollow columns, which convey it to the iron pipes underground.

The exposed sides of all the Galleries are protected by handsome cast-iron ornamental railing, of a diamond pattern. This railing is placed between the iron columns, and secured to the floor by means of two intermediate open iron vertical standards, with plinths of the same material: the standards are each 8 inches in width. A deal plinth is continued between the standards and columns respectively: this plinth is 4½ inches high, and 1½ inches in thickness. The iron forming the panels is 1 5-16th inch wide, by ¼ inch thick; the iron is turned over both at the top and bottom, and is screwed, in the former case, to the hand-rail, and, in the latter, to the deal plinth: ornamental bosses on diamond-shaped grounds are fixed at the intersections of the diagonal iron bars. The hand-rail is of mahogany, of segmental form, being 3 inches in width or diameter, and 2½ inches deep. The pattern of the railing is well chosen, and gives a pleasing finish to the galleries. In the construction of the sides of the galleries, the operations of the workmen are much facilitated by traversing scaffolds, running each on four small rollers or wheels, planks being laid longitudinally on the top of the floor as tram plates for the same. The length of each of these travelling scaffolds is 24 feet, and the height sufficient to enable the men to fix the gutters and the ornamental frieze.

#### RAISING THE TRUSSES OF CENTRAL AISLE.

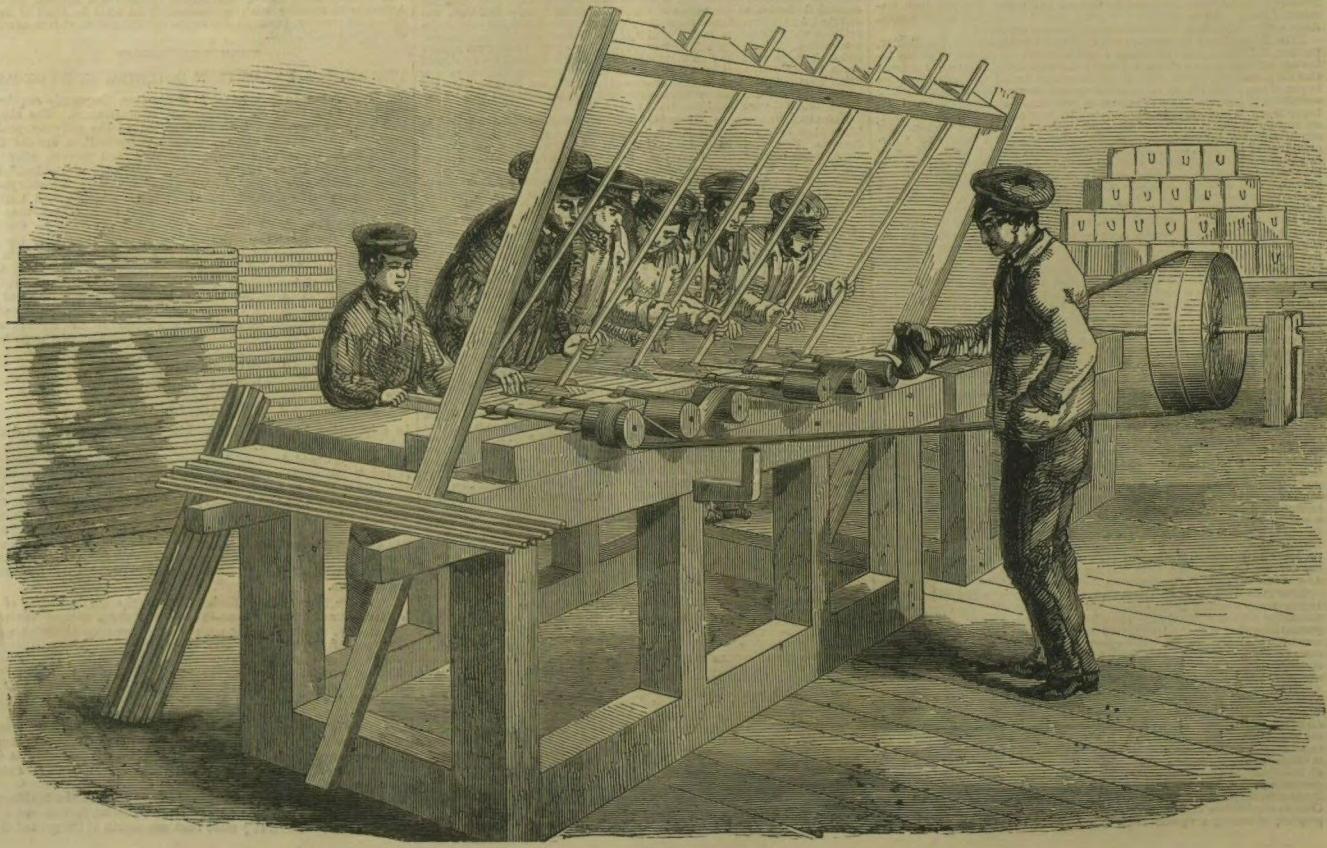
In order to raise each of the 72-feet trusses which support the "ridge and furrow" roof over the central aisle, a stout and tall "derrick" properly rigged with pulley-tackles and guide-ropes, is fixed up midway between the two columns, to which the truss is to be fixed. This derrick consists in the present instance of several fir scaffold-poles firmly bound together, and reaching to a height of about 70 feet above the ground. When the truss is securely attached by means of a stout chain to the rope by which it is to be raised, a signal is given, and the other end of the rope, which passes over a pulley at the top of the derrick, and thence round a leading block at the bottom of the derrick, is attached to a team of six horses: the horses, drawing the rope out "on end," raise the truss in a few minutes nearly to the position it is destined to occupy; but the whole process of moving the derrick from one intermediate point to another, and securely fixing the truss, and entirely completing the operation of fix-



DRILLING MACHINE.

ing it to the columns, occupies about two hours, so that four or five of these 72-feet trusses can be fixed in a day by means of one derrick. Several men are required to attend to the guide and other ropes while the truss is being raised; and three men are required at each end of it to fix it in its proper bearings.

The Drilling Machine, represented upon the present page, has been fully described at page 396 of Number 455 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



DRILLING MACHINE.



PROFESSOR COWPER'S LECTURE IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE EXHIBITION BUILDING ON TUESDAY LAST.

**PROFESSOR COWPER'S ILLUSTRATIONS  
OF THE SCIENTIFIC CONSTRUCTION OF  
THE PALACE OF INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY.**

(From our own Reporter.)

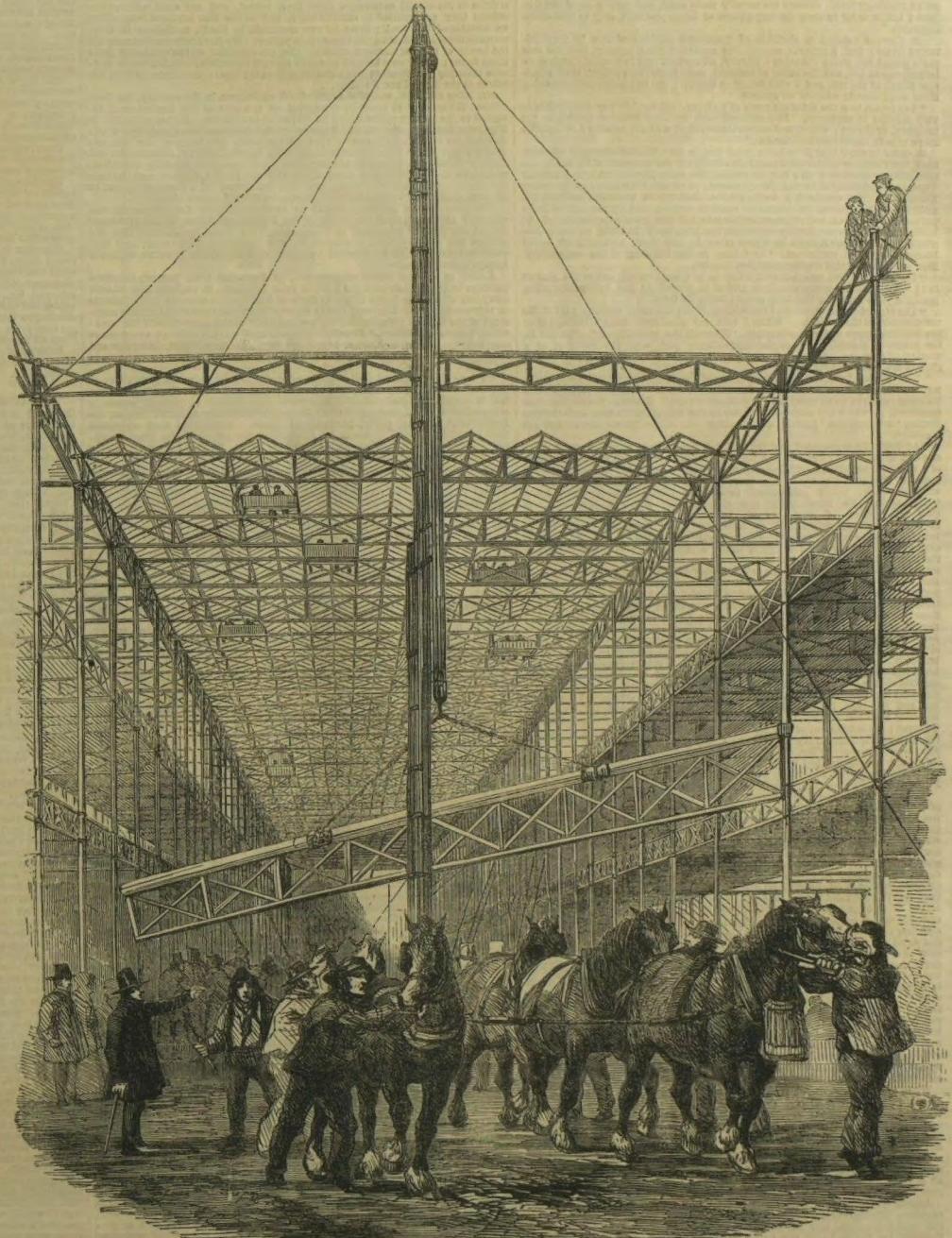
The last day of the year 1850, the one on which Messrs Fox, Henderson, and Co., contractors for the building, were to have given up possession to the Royal Commissioners, was not inappropriately chosen for the private visit of the members of the Society of Arts, who collected together in large numbers to listen to Professor Cowper's truly lucid explanations of the scientific construction of the great Industrial Palace. As important alterations and additions have been made in, and to, the original contract, the Commissioners have granted to the contractors an additional month to complete the whole of their works.

The space enclosed as a lecture-room for the occasion is situated on the south side of the building, towards the west end, extending 120 feet in length by 75 feet in width, so that there is room accommodation for at least two thousand people; but, as far as we could judge, there were not more than twelve-hundred persons present, including many visitors, especially ladies, who were not members of the society. On three sides of the lecture-room the enclosure was effected by elegant carpets suspended from the cast-iron girders and reaching to the floor; while the fourth side was closed by the permanent ventilation partition boarding between the upper and lower tiers of ventilators. A temporary wooden platform, with table in front, had been erected especially for the use of the lecturer, and a long desk and seat had also been provided for the use of the reporters. Drawings and diagrams, illustrative of the subject, were pinned up behind the lecturer's table, as will be seen by reference to the engraving above.

At ten minutes before twelve, previously to the two thousand workmen leaving the building for dinner, the visitors were admitted to the lecture-room; and at a minute or two after twelve Mr. Cowper commenced his illustrative lecture as follows:—

"I have been requested, on this occasion, by the council of the Society of Arts, to lay before you the *scientific principles* of the construction of the magnificent building. I must confess that, when first applied to, I felt considerable difficulty in agreeing to the request, as Mr. Paxton, the originator of the grand building in which we are now assembled, had already at your own Temple of Science, in the Adelphi, given you an account of the growth of the idea in his own mind from the first employment by him of glass to cover the *plants* of all kinds, and of enclose with them the various *industrial works* of all nations; but he has said nothing about the scientific principles by which the details have been so beautifully carried out by the talented and enterprising contractors. To Mr. Paxton, then, we are indebted for the original idea of the building—to him also, we are indebted for the 'ridge and furrow roofing,' and also for the 'three-way-gutters,' whereby not only the rainwater is conducted away from the sky-line, but also the condensed moisture from the under-side of the glass, which covers the building. It was he, also, who furnished the bold outline of the structure, to be constructed as to its principal dimensions of multiples of simple parts. It was a grand idea, and as original as it was grand. Mr. Paxton submitted his plan to Messrs. Fox and Henderson, who were at the time engaged in tendering for the gigantic building of brick, with its colossal dome. As those who sat in council for the building of brick were permitted to make suggestions, provided such suggestions were accompanied by detailed plans and estimates, Messrs. Fox and Henderson, seeing at a glance that the Paxton design was one most suitable for the intended purpose, at once recommended it to the Royal Commissioners, who accepted it at the same time undertaking to procure detailed plans of each design, together with estimates, in the short space of one week; and this promise the contractors not only made, but, by working day and night, actually fulfilled; and the consequence was that the general design was adopted; and we have now to see how this extraordinary and novel plan has been carried out."

In this case, this building is not what is usually termed an architectural structure. It is not built of wood, neither of stone nor brick, but of iron. The architect deals with materials the strength of which is hardly ever the subject of calculation: brick is laid upon brick, and stone upon stone, without the slightest fear of their crushing from any weight they may be required to support. The engineer, on the contrary, has to deal with iron, a material whose strength is calculated in every situation in which it is used, and the economy in quantity reduced nearly to a *minimum*. Iron also differs altogether in appearance from brick and stone, which present large broad surfaces; while iron, on the contrary, presents, as you will perceive throughout the building (except, indeed, in the external girders), such narrow surfaces as may almost be described as consisting of an assemblage of lines; and, in the building in which we are now collected, these lines are made up principally of columns and girders. Do not misunderstand me—I have no desire to depreciate architectural beauty; but it will be seen, on an inspection of this building, that the contractors have been guided by more important reasons than mere architectural beauty. I may mention that architects have a particular love for iron; and, as an example, I may allude to the roof of the hall of King's College, which is supported by iron columns; these columns are encased in wood, in order to give them a more substantial appearance. Everybody seems to have become a critic with regard to this building; we often hear people say, 'How very slight;



RAISING THE TRUSSES OF CENTRAL AISLE



"L'ILLUSTRATION" AND THE "ILLUSTRATED  
LONDON NEWS."

SHOCKING CASE OF UNFOUNDED ALARM.

We have been much amused by the perusal of an article in the French periodical, *L'Illustration*, one of the numerous family of imitators which the success of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* has called into existence, and which, in its number of last week, has indulged in the very ungracious and unfilial act of abusing its progenitor. It seems that we have excited the fears of our small Parisian friend by the announcement we have made, that during the Great Exhibition of the present year we shall publish our Journal in French and German, as well as in English. Our friend of the *Illustration* endeavours to conceal his terror at this portentous announcement under the mask of hilarity, and laughs lugubriously to think of the danger to which he will be subjected in his own domain, when we carry our resolution into effect. "The *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*," he says, with a pang but ill concealed under an attempt at mirth, "not contented with reigning peacefully over the three kingdoms, aspires to the conquest of the world, and to gather the laurels of Charlemagne and Napoleon. The *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* is going to publish in German and in French, and in a short time the Continent of Europe will be enabled to enjoy this delicate British pleasantness, which tickles the palate like a bottle of gin, and cheers the spirits like a glass of cider. Innocent *aristians*," he continues, "and still more innocent inhabitants of Berlin and Vienna: you imagined that you had a sufficiency of men of talent (*gens d'esprit*) at home in your own country to amuse, or at least to divert you. Simple and silly illusion! Wit, knowledge, elegance, good taste, all that charms and exasperates are to be found in London, in the parish of St. Clement Danes:—Who would have thought it!" Having eased his overburdened mind to the extent of this overwhelming effort of his wit, our Parisian friend proceeds to assert, that the Continental people would not be, by any manner of means, amused or instructed by a translation of our Journal into French or into German; that they take no interest in the morning walks of Queen Victoria, in the afternoon airings of Prince Albert, or in the studies of the Prince of Wales or the Royal family; that they do not wish to know when Colonel Thompson will return from India, nor care in the least whether or not "Viscount Fielding is going to Rome." The *Illustration*, with that delicate and accurate perception of events in England which seems to distinguish it, thinks that Viscount Fielding has actually gone in the body to Rome—the City, and hopes to hear how many carriages and footmen he took along with him. The noble convert to Romanism will doubtless be as much amused at this admirable blunder as we are. The *Illustration*, after indulging in many more such remarks upon the news which appears in our Journal, and in the English newspapers generally—which it asserts to be not at all of a character to interest its readers, or indeed any persons of good taste or good sense, unless they be Cockneys—which, it says, all our readers are—makes itself merry about the scissors which it supposes perform all the editorial functions in our office; and asserts, that from beginning to end of our paper there does not appear an article—no, not even so much as a paragraph—that is worth reading! It is generous enough to admit that now and then, once in a month or so, we contrive to publish an engraving that deserves to be looked at, though not at all to be compared with any of those which from week to week appear in its own columns. It advises us, if we value its good opinion, to stick to our engravings, to the English language, and to the parish of St. Clement Danes, of which parish, by the way, it facetiously calls us the "beadle." Really, we are very sorry that we have so dreadfully shocked the nerves and "flurried the milk" of our delicate contemporary, and hope that it will speedily recover from the alarm into which it has so unnecessarily thrown itself. We did not know that it was subject to these hysterical fits. We should deeply regret if any evil consequences should ensue to it. *Pauvre petit dominoise!* Let it take heart of grace—things are not so bad as it imagines. The *Illustration* is free to take its revenge against us. Let it publish in English, and meet us on our own ground—even in the parish of St. Clement Danes; and, to show that we bear it no ill-will—though it did its little utmost to be spiteful—we will undertake to make the announcement of its determination in our advertising columns, without charging it a *sous*. We will even pay the advertisement duty for it and do our best to encourage it in the first attempt at anything like enterprise or spirit, which we shall have ever heard of in connection with its name. Still, with all our good feeling towards the *Illustration*, we must say that its attack upon us is somewhat ungrateful, considering the kindnesses we have done it ever since it was born, and the facilities our artist have from time to time afforded it. Surely it is a little too barefaced to deny us all merit, when it must know that it was obliged to copy our illustrations of the French Revolution, and of events passing under its own nose, because it lacked either the enterprise or the means to employ its own artists. If it cannot beat us in free competition even in its own capital, it is not handsome on its part, in a freak of alarm or of small jealousy, to abuse its benefactor. But we can forgive it; and trust that the *Illustration*, notwithstanding its present ill-humour, will make as free with our columns for the future as ever it did in the past. Indeed, we know that it will and must do so; necessity has no law. Yet we advise it with all friendliness, for the sake of its own repose, to cultivate the English language before it again criticises English newspapers. If it had done so in the present instance it might have spared its weak constitution the shock it has received, and learned that we are not going to gobble it up entirely, nor to encroach upon the dominions of the French or German press in the farcical manner which it supposes. It is quite certain that neither the French nor German press can convey to the readers such full details of the Exhibition as we can; and it is equally certain that the *Illustration*, which could not illustrate the warlike doings of the Boulevards of Paris during the revolution or the insurrection, will not be able to illustrate the more peaceful doings of Hyde-Park in London during the exhibition. We sincerely hope that it will not be the death of our friend; but even if it be, we shall carry out our intention of publishing in French and German. The Cochinchinese translation, which we think desirable, may attempt it by degrees. But if he will take our advice he will cultivate English. Who knows, if with a little knowledge of our language, he might not conquer us on our own ground? That would, indeed, be an achievement. Let him try. There is no knowing what good a small effort at originality might do him.

On Monday last Mr. T. B. Hobhouse, M.P., for Lincoln, attended at the Home Office with a loyal protestation against the law on catalogues of Livestock, or premiums by Sir George Grey, Esq.

The splendid Rotunda Park estate, near Birmingham, for a long period the property of the Notts. of Warrester's estate, has just been purchased by Mr. Gillett, the steel-plate maker, for £50,000.

CHESS.

To Correspondents.

THURSDAY, Dec. 1.—The prospects of the Chess Tournament, we hope to say, are now as follows:—The expenses of the most auspicious promoters. Already the sum of £1000 has been given by Mr. J. C. H. Wharncliffe, of the unoccupied Heywood, and the accumulated £1000, an uncollected £1000, £1000 of winning fresh laurels at this great *passage* of arms, are actively entering laurels for the Earl of Chichester with an address.

JAMES ROBINSON.—The moment a Pawn arrives at the final square, it must assume the name of a superior place, without regard to the person then on the board.

EDWARD.—Why not purchase some elementary work, and make yourself conversant with the rules of the game? We have seen at least a hundred instances of a player may have two or three hours to pass in a quiet corner, and yet be unable to tell what is the rule of the Pawns, or by a Look any Pawn, or even placing a cap on the Pawn.

B. A.—Accord our thanks for your *sensible* writer. The solution alluded to over-

JUVENITIS SIGMA, AS ANATUR, and others.—We do not at the moment see how the author of No. 363 could give the mate you propose in three moves.

JOHN.—You should propose some state.

G. B.—They shall be glad to have the game in the Great

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EPIOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Earl of Chichester, it was understood, was to be proposed for the vacant office of chairman of Committees in the House of Lords next session. However, it has been found that Mr. Wharncliffe, of Heywood, has been nominated to fill the place. The Earl of Chichester, during a period of 40 years, has been appointed to that Committee by the principal members of the legal profession.

Cardinal Wiseman has received autograph letters of congratulation from their Majesties the Queens of Spain and Portugal, comprising the number of Catholic Sovereigns of Europe who have addressed his Eminence on occasion of his appointment.

The Hon. T. Vesey, M.P., and Lady Emma Vesey, spent a portion of each of several days last week distributing their accustomed annual supply of clothing, &c., to the poor in and about the town and neighbourhood of Abbeyleix (Ireland).

On Friday morning week, a number of workmen commenced pulling down the railings and the lodge at Cumberlidge-gate, the entrance to the top of Oxford-street. At the same time they began building a smithy and forge, together with sheds for the accommodation of bricklayers and masons. An inquiry, it was stated to be the intention to erect the marble arch which had been taken from the front of Buckingham Palace upon this site.

Colonel Hugh Rose, Consul-General for Syria, has been appointed Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople. By this appointment a saving of £1000 a year will be effected, and it is not probable that the vacancy in Syria will be filled up until the end of February.

A great northern diver, shot at the mouth of the Spey one morning lately was found to have in its pouch no fewer than 19 flounders and a salmon.

A very large block of granite, being more than 20 feet long, of the finest quality and colour, has lately been raised by the Cheesewring Granite Company, and is destined for the new monument to the Duke of Wellington, at the top of Cheesewring Hill, which is intended to be sent to the Great Exhibition of 1851.

The completion of the Bohemian and Saxon Railroad has been announced. The first experimental train left Aussig on the 21st December, and arrived without hindrance at Bodenbach, the station near Tetschen-on-the-Elsbe.

His Holiness the Pope has granted a concession to Messrs. C. de Vries, R.N., Ryckersdorff, Pop, Smif, and Loepuyt, for establishing a steam-boat service in Netherland Indies.

Mr. Alfred Graham, one of the surgeons of the Cunard line of steamers, arrived in Liverpool on Saturday evening, the 26th December, to commence his second voyage to America. The cholera is prevalent in the Mississippi river, and the mortality is high.

The Christmas week in Cheltenham, says a local journal, has been as gay as the most ardent votary of pleasure could well desire. In public, as well as in private life, the festive character of the season has been well maintained—a concert, two balls, and three steamer-trips, all attract the former, while the latter are the principal amusements of the wealthy and fashionable circles which have taken place in the winter of 1850-51.

By the arrival of the *Navigator* we have advices from the city of Buenos Ayres to the 26th of October inclusive. In fact the news previously received respecting war in La Plata seemed to be mere talk.

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The latest accounts from Killarney are that Mr. Daniel O'Connell is progressing favourably, under the loss of two fingers and thumb.

The Duchess of Angoumois arrived at Venice on the 22nd ult. She has travelled under the name of Countess de Marignac, and is to pass the winter in that city, in the hotel of the Duke de Bordeux.

Sir Henry Bishop, who lectures in Newcastle early in 1851, presided on Saturday at a meeting there, of the Musical Instrument Commissioners (Exhibition of Industry).

A new pleasure-sea has been lately made on the coast between Cardigan and Newgport, of tobacco, snuff, and spirits—the officer who detected it being stationed at Newport.

The vessel *Golden Spring*, which has arrived in the docks from Bombay, has brought, as a portion of a large general cargo of East India produce, 2000 boxes of cotton seed, consigned to order for home use.

Dr. Murphy, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Cloyne and Ross, has subscribed £100 towards the Catholic University (Ireland).

An exhibition of fine art has just been held at Belfast, which has been most productive in the sale of works, and highly creditable to the artist contributors.

At Little Paxton a destructive fire broke out in the rick-yard of Mr. John Cross, farmer, about half-past six o'clock in the evening of Christmas day, which consumed several stacks of wheat, barley, and beans, estimated value about £600, no doubt the act of some rascals but yet undiscovred.

During the past week those flowers of spring, the lesser periwinkle, strawberry, and violet, have been gathered from the hedges in the neighbourhood of Lisdeane (Cornwall). Tulipanuses and wallflowers may also be seen in bloom in many gardens there.

Her Excellency the Countess of Clarence, accompanied by Sir William Russell Bart., *ad-eccomp.*, distributed warm clothing on Christmas day to 500 poor persons assembled at Castleknock gable, county Dublin, and said to be the clergy of the various religious denominations in the neighbourhood.

Several colliers, from Kilmarnock, have been hired by the Hudson Bay Company to proceed to Vancouver's Island, in order to work the coal-mines.

The snow is lying so deep in the northern parts of the department of the Corse, France, that the roads are blocked up. On the departmental road between Limoges and Bourges it was 10 inches deep.

M. Christian Laritz Sverdrup, for 42 years professor of philology at Upsala University, Sweden, has just died in that place aged 79.

Baron Constantine de Schoritzer, son of one of the principal bankers of Augsburg (Germany), has just embraced the Catholic faith, and intends to remain in England.

The eldest daughter of Schiller, Madame Caroline Junot, died suddenly on the 19th, at Wurzburg, in Bavaria.

## WINDSOR CASTLE.—THE STATE APARTMENTS.

The *Gazette* of yesterday week contained the gratifying intelligence of the re-opening to the public of the State Apartments at Windsor Castle. As this information is of general interest, we here reprint it:—

"**LOD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE, DEC.**  
27.—A friendly letter gives that the works at Windsor Castle connected with the State Apartments being now completed, the State Apartments will be open to the public, as heretofore, from the 1st of January next. The State Apartments in Windsor Castle will be open to the public on the following days: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The Lord Chamberlain's tickets may be obtained in London ( gratis ) of Messrs. Paul and Dominic Colnaghi, print-sellers, No. 14, Pall-mall East; of Mr. Moon, print-seller, No. 20, Threadneedle-street; of Mr. Mitchell, bookseller, No. 22, Old Bond-street; of Mr. H. Colnaghi and Co., print-sellers, No. 66, Strand; and of Mr. Wright, bookseller, No. 60, Pall-mall; of whom, also, guide-books may be obtained, for one penny each. The tickets are available for one week from the day they are issued. They are not transferable. There is a contribution of Her Majesty's command that payment for, or in reference to, them be made to any person whatever. The hours of admission to the State Apartments are:—1st April to 31st October, between eleven and four; and from 1st November to 31st March, between eleven and three."

We are reminded by this re-opening to resume our illustrations of the Royal Apartments. This we do with

THE GUARD CHAMBER,  
which the visitor enters on leaving St. George's Hall.

The Guard Chamber contains a large collection of arms and armour, ingeniously disposed, and whole-length figures, all clad in the armours of the personages, the name inscribed on the bracket on which each figure stands. Thus we have suits of armour once belonging to a Duke of Brunswick, 1530; Lord Howard, 1584; Earl of Essex, 1596; Henry Prince of Wales (eldest son of King James I.) 1600; Charles, Prince of Wales (Charles I.) 1630; and Prince Rupert, 1638. At the south end of the room, is a portion of the forecastle of the *Victory*, Lord Nelson's Flag Ship at the battle of Trafalgar, perforated by a cannon-ball, but scarcely encumbered. This interesting relic was in the possession of King William IV., who, upon his elevation to the Throne, had it removed from Bushy (where it had stood in his dining-room) and placed in its present position, as a memorial of the hero, whose colossal marble bust, by Sir Francis Chantrey, is placed in the Queen's Presence Chamber on the top of it. On each side of this relic is one of the two brass Field Pieces taken during the late campaign in the Punjab, and selected by Viscount Hardinge from the great mass of captured Sikh artillery, to be forwarded to England as memorials of the prowess of the British arms. These guns were cast in England; the carriages (formed of Teak wood) were made at Calcutta; and the whole forwarded to Lahore by the East India Company, as a present to Ranjeet Singh, by whom they appear to have been held in such estimation, that, if a Judicet may be allowed, he has had the same care and expense bestowed upon them, with which he has had the same care and expense bestowed upon them, and which do great credit to the native artists. In their present locality they may be considered as appropriate and significant companions to two small pieces of Brass Ordnance, apparently of French manufacture, formerly belonging to Tipper Saib, Sultan of Mysore, and taken at the capture of Seringapatam. One of these is most elaborately and tastefully embossed, and inlaid with gold; the other is plainer and rather smaller; and both are mounted on mahogany carriages of English manufacture.

Here are also placed the busts of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, copied from Rysbrach by Sevier; and Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, by Chantrey. The bust of the latter is in bronze, and the banner behind him bears the motto, "Non nobis sed misericordia nostra salutem habemus." When Queen Anne was sitting in her closet, which commands a fine view over the northern terrace of the Castle, she received the news of the victory of Blenheim; and for several years in that closet was deposited the banner of France—a flag of white sarcenet, embroidered with three *feuilles de lis*. It was afterwards kept in the Queen's Presence Chamber, on an elegant burl table; but it now hangs over the bust of the hero in the Guard Chamber. The Duke of Wellington's tri-colour hangs in like manner over his bust; and the estates

of Blenheim and Strathfieldsayre are held upon the tenure of these banners being presented every year at Windsor Castle—the former on the 2nd of August, before twelve o'clock, and the latter on the 13th of June.

The chair recently wrought shield in a glass case over the fire-place is said to have been presented by Francis I., King of France to our Henry VIII., at their interview at Ardes, near Calais, May 31, 1520. The workmanship is ascribed to Benvenuto Cellini, and its exquisite finish is in every way worthy of that most able and most extraordinary man. Around its extreme edge appear some verses, which are printed in the "Penny Official Guide-book."

Two other relics of great but dissimilar interest, are also placed in this room. These consist of two chairs—one, made from the oak-tree which grew from Alow's auld haunted kirk," in Ayrshire, the scene of the demon revels in Burns's "Tam o' Shanter." The poem itself is engraved on the brass panels, at the back of the chair, with a certificate of the genuineness of the relic.

The other chair is made from an elm tree which grew on the battle-field of Waterloo. In the upper portion of the back, over a carved representation of the village and church of Waterloo, is a Latin inscription to George IV., surrounded with military trophies, below which, immediately under a helmet supported by dogs, is a descriptive English inscription.

From the Guard Chamber the visitor proceeds to

— THE QUEEN'S PRESENCE CHAMBER,

the ceiling of which is painted by Verrio, and in it he has again introduced Catherine of Braganza, Queen of King Charles II., as the principal figure. The Queen is seated in a chariot, drawn by Time, and supported by Cupid. Below these groups, Justice is driving away Sedition, Envy, and other evil genii. This and the ceilings of the Queen's Audience Chamber, and the State Ante-Room, are all that it was found practicable to preserve of Verrio's productions in this way, in the most extensive repair and alteration of the Castle.

The walls of this room are decorated with Gobelin tapestry, representing other portions of the history of Esther and Mordecai, in continuation of those in the Queen's Audience Chamber. In the first apartment from the Guard Chamber, Esther is seen making her request to King Ahasuerus at the banquet. The next represents Esther, who, having resolved to intercede for the deliverance of the Jews, presents herself before the King in the inner court, and obtains grace of the golden sceptre. This follows the continuation of the contumacious behaviour of Mordecai to Haman. These last two pieces are on the north side of the room, one on each side of the fire-places. The remaining one is at the west end, and represents the final doom of Haman.

Over the door-ways of this room are portions of tapestry from the Hall of Brunswick, each surrounded by some of the finest specimens of Gibbon's carving. The one over the door by which the visitor entered, represents the Princess Elizabeth of Brunswick, whole-length, by Daniel Mytens, the elder, 1609.

Over the opposite door to that by which the room is entered, hangs the portrait of the Princess Dorothy of Brunswick, whole length, by Daniel Mytens, the elder, 1609.

Over the chimney-piece (sculptured by Bacon) is a portrait of Henrietta Maria, Duchess of Orleans, by Mignard, and her two daughters, Maria Louise and Anna Maria. The first was married to Charles II., King of Spain, and the second to Victor Amadeus II. Duke of Savoy and King of Sardinia.



THE QUEEN'S PRESENCE CHAMBER.



ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS SOCIETY AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

abundant evidence of the fact, that the cause of the Commercial Travellers' Schools continues to be well supported by those whose sympathies ought naturally to be directed to the welfare of the institution.

The health of her Majesty, and of Prince Albert and the Royal Family, having been responded to,

The Right Hon. Chairman gave "Prosperity to the Commercial Travellers' Schools." His Lordship called attention to the further end of the gallery, and the interesting scene in the gallery (where the children receiving their education in the schools were assembled). The health of those children offered, in his opinion, the strongest appeal to their hearts and Christian feelings; and his present conviction was, that nothing he could say or do would produce so much effect upon their minds as the sight now presented to them. But there was something more which attracted the notice of this interesting occasion. If he looked underneath the gallery and observed the countenances of the ladies come to inspect their children, he had no doubt, he felt at once, that the sympathy he was about to make in behalf of the numerous children of their less fortunate brethren would not be made in vain. It should be recollect that the institution was not designed for the purpose of granting pensions to certain persons in age or infirmity, or alleviating the diseases to which the human frame was subject, but its object was to educate the orphan and necessitous children of their parents, and in such a manner that at some future period they might be likely to entitle them to sit at the present table, and to appropriate the benefits which had been conferred upon them. (Hear, hear.) The education of the youthful population of this country of paramount importance at the present moment, and if ever there was a period when it was necessary that the youthful mind should be properly instructed, whether in a political or moral point of view, it was at the present time. (Hear.) He was quite sure that the future prosperity of our country depended upon the education of the people; and he considered it a part of his present duty to impress this fact upon the attention of his hearers, because he could not help feeling that there was one amongst this company who had not some reason to feel interested in the success of such an institution as the Commercial Travellers' School. How many children were there whose parents (formerly the associates and companions of those now present) being removed from them by the stroke of death or misfortune, had left the charitable consideration of their friends? In whatever station in life these children might afterwards be placed, he trusted that they would have good reason to bless their kind friends who appeared before them, and that they might feel that some portion of the happiness experienced had been caused by the beneficial exertions of those who had met the Lord Mayor on the 27th of December, 1850. (Hear, hear.) His Lordship concluded by reading the following letter, which he had received from Mr. George Moore, the treasurer to the institution, and which he stated was well worthy of so old and valued a friend of the Commercial Travellers' School:

5, Bow Churchyard, Friday evening, Dec. 27, 1850.  
Dear Lord Mayor.—My doctor will not permit me to support you in person to-night; I therefore enclose you a cheque for thirty guineas, being ten guineas each for myself and partners, Mr. Groucock and Copstake. When you so readily responded to my call, I should have had the pleasure of reporting that we had raised the whole of the building fund: we have only raised two-thirds of it, and we have still about £1000 to get of the £12,000. Will you, with your usual eloquence and convincing power, tell the people of the city of Bristol how much they are wanted to do. A very little economy (1d. per day) would enable the institution to educate, maintain, and clothe the orphan of every deceased brother, and make the destitute widow's heart rejoice.—Believe me, my dear Lord Mayor, most gratefully yours (signed) George Moore.

At the conclusion of the letter, His Lordship observed that he trusted that the example of charity therein contained would be followed by all those who felt any interest in the welfare of the institution. (Cheers.)

A list of subscriptions was then read, including a hundred guineas from the National Mercantile Life Assurance Company, fifty guineas from the Baron Lionel Rothchild, and several sums of ten guineas. The children of the schools afterwards walked round the room, and their healthy appearance was the subject of general commendation.

The toast was responded to with unanimous applause.

The Rev. Mr. Hedges acknowledged the toast, and advocated the object of the charity in an eloquent address, the rev. gentleman observing:—There was no class of the community whose integrity and fidelity was of more importance to the country than that class whose children were maintained in the institutions they were now met to support. (Hear, hear.) The conviction that the best way to do this was that education was the great qualification of the boys—strengthened daily by day. He was no advocate for restricting liberty of conscience.

He was, at the same time, sensible of this fact—that, if you had to choose for themselves between God and man, they must choose God. (Hear, hear.)

But he was, at the same time, sensible of this fact—that, if you had to choose for themselves between the one and the other. (Cheers.) You can

not expect the masses to come to a correct conclusion on matters of such vital importance, unless you first implant in their minds sound principles of education, based upon the true word of God. (Hear, hear.) Ho, for one, had no fear with regard to the right solution of any question that might be proposed to him. He cared not what the question might be—whether Protestantism and Tractarianism—whatever it might be, he had no fear of the result so long as the mass of the people were educated in simple, honest, Scriptural principles. (Hear, hear.) And from what he had heard and seen of the education of the children of the Commercial Travellers' Schools, he had no fear of the result so long as the mass of the people were educated in simple, honest, Scriptural principles.

The general feeling manifested by the guests throughout the evening, gave

#### COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOOLS.

#### ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

YESTERDAY week (December 27), the Anniversary Festival to celebrate the foundation of this excellent institution, established for the benefit of the children and orphans of Commercial Travellers, took place at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. The chair was ably filled by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, supported by the Sheriffs, the Mayor of Bristol, John Masterman, Esq., M.P.; Rev. H. T. Hedges; John Bagally, Esq.; R. Bagally, Esq.; H. Teape, Esq.; Frederick Horion, Esq.; T. Meape, Esq.; Arthur Wilcoxon, Esq.; E. M. Cole, Esq., Bristol; J. G. Shaw, Esq., Bristol; — Thomas, Esq., Bristol; Robert Clarke, un., Esq.

The guests numbered about 250 gentlemen, and the galleries were graced by a goodly assembly of ladies. The musical arrangements were excellent; Miss Dolby, Mr. Machin, Mr. Young, Mr. Horn, and Mr. Land sang with great success; and a new song, entitled "Pity's Tear," written by Mrs. Cuffley and composed by Mrs. Walsh, and sung by Miss Dolby, was received with a hearty encore.

The general feeling manifested by the guests throughout the evening, gave

Mr. Masterman's School, and that without compromising any principle of Christianity—(hear, hear)—no sectarian views were, as he understood, allowed to be incurred in this school; but a liberal education was imparted, based upon moral and Christian principles. (Hear, hear.) The education given to these children was of a useful and practical nature, not calculated to raise them above their station in society, but to fit them for the position they were likely to fill hereafter, and to make them useful and respected in it. (Hear, hear.) He did not believe there was a single institution in this vast metropolis conducted on better or sounder principles, or where those principles were more strictly carried out than the Commercial Travellers' School. (Hear.) The Rev. gentleman concluded by observing, they could not have a more conclusive proof of the advantages of education among the poor, than the effect that had been produced by the Ragged Schools. In the last report of the Ordnance of Newcastle, it was shown that since the establishment of these institutions, there had been a considerable decrease in the number of juvenile criminals. Here was a proof of the advantages of education amongst the lowest class of the community; and wherever you could trace its effects, whether in the higher or lower classes, the same results would be apparent—that the education you could do to the poor was to contribute upon the whole to the happiness of religion and moral instruction. Such was the character of the education given in the Commercial Travellers' School, and he should meet with a hearty response from every heart present when he wished that institution, and all connected with it, prosperity and happiness in the new year. (Cheers.)

A second list of subscriptions was then read, including the names of the Lord Mayor for 10 guineas; the Mayor of Bristol, 20 guineas; Mr. Masterman, M.P., 10 guineas; W. G. Gunton, Esq., £33 2s.; J. C. Podmore, Esq., £10; Mr. Masterman, M.P., next rose, and observed, with reference to the interests of the charity, he was glad to see in such a cause such a number of ladies assembled (cheers), and he was sure, with their sympathies enlisted in its favour, the institution could not but prosper. (Cheers.) He begged to propose to them the health of their right honourable chairman, the Lord Mayor.

The toast having been drunk with the usual honours.

The Lord Mayor returned thanks, and assured the company that it would always be a source of gratification to him to assist in promoting the interests of the Commercial Travellers' School by all the means in his power.

The right hon. chairman next proposed the health of Mr. Masterman, the president of the institution. His Lordship offered his warmest congratulations to the directors of this charity, on the fact of their being enabled to have so excellent a president; for his knowledge of that gentleman had shown him that where there was good to be done he was always ready to do it. (Hear, hear.) It was a source of the greatest pleasure to him to be enabled to confer benefit upon so poor a following—creatures; and it might truly be said of him that he was overjoyed by his friends.

The toast having been drunk with the usual honours, Mr. Masterman returned thanks, and observed that his long connexion with the mercantile community had given him a great interest in the welfare of such an institution as the present, and it was gratifying to him to find that the commercial people of this country also consider him a fit and proper person to fill the office of president. He could assure them that so long as his life was spared it should be his humblest and earnest endeavour to promote the usefulness of this valuable institution; and in this feeling he begged to tender his sincere thanks for the honour which had now been conferred upon him. (Hear.) Mr. Masterman, their treasurer, wishing him a speedy recovery, said—The honour which had now been conferred upon him a friend of the institution, Mr. George Moore, their treasurer, wishing him a speedy recovery.

The toast was responded to with the loudest applause.

Mr. Cuffley (attached to the firm of Groucock, Copstake, and Moore) responded thanks.

A new national song, "Our Country, our Church, and our Queen," written by Mr. J. B. Walker, the music by Mr. Loder, was sung by Mr. Machin, and elicited an encore.

Another report of subscriptions having been read.

Mr. Walker estimated that "Pity's Tear," had produced by the sale of 1000 copies 170 guineas to the funds of the charity; and proposed the health of the two ladies, Mrs. Cuffley and Mrs. Walsh, by whom it had been written and composed.

The toast having been responded to, Miss Dolby sang "The Bonnets of Bonnie Dundee," which was also cheered.

The Right Hon. Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Mayor of Bristol," who the Lord Mayor added, was a man of integrity of purpose and honesty of character, and had done much great success in promoting the objects of the Commercial Travellers' Society, and he had now given a donation of twenty guineas, in addition to a former sum of twenty-five guineas.

Mr. Alderman, the Mayor of Bristol, returned thanks, saying that he had always felt a peculiar interest in the society of commercial travellers. They might rest assured he would do all in his power to promote their welfare, and it was in this feeling that he had the opportunity of being present at the anniversary festival of this institution. The Mayor concluded by proposing "The Corporation of London and the Sheriff."

Mr. Sheriff Hodgeson returned thanks; and responding to a universal call, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Carden also acknowledged the toast, referring to the importance of a charity like that of the Commercial Travellers' School, whose object was to educate the young in some of the best principles.

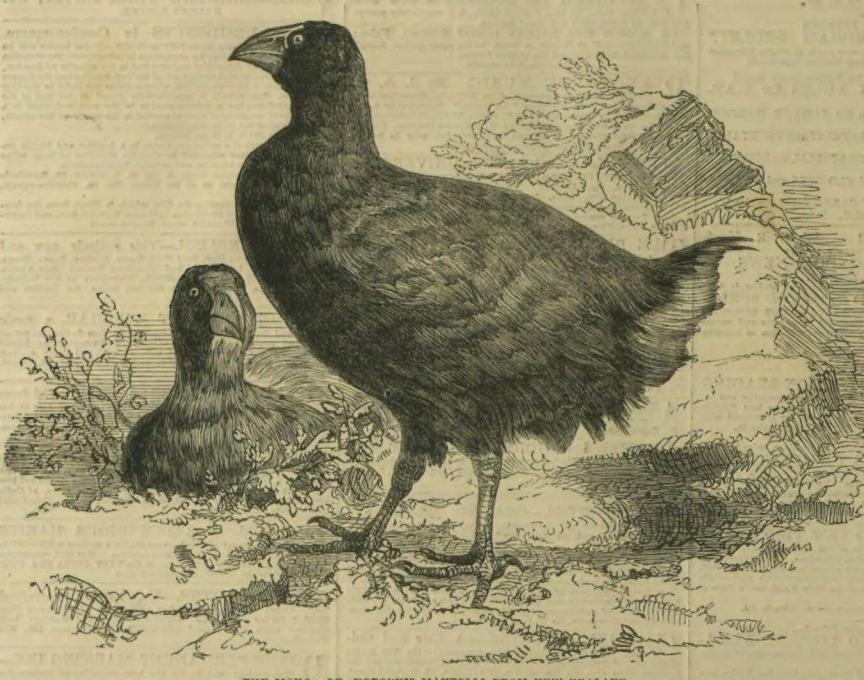
The Lord Mayor then announced an addition to the funds of the charity of £200, as the gift of Mr. Walker, the author of "Pity's Tear," and the contribution of two lady friends of the charity, and the benefits which resulted therefrom, proposed "The Health of the Ladies."

Mr. J. B. Walker, author of "The Will and the Way," returned thanks on behalf of the ladies.

Mr. Shaw, of Bristol, then proposed "The Vice-President and Trustees of the Commercial Travellers' Schools," and stated his conviction that it was the policy







THE MOHO; OR, NOTORNIS MANTELLI FROM NEW ZEALAND.

## THE MOHO; OR, NOTORNIS MANTELLI.

UNIQUE BIRD FROM NEW ZEALAND.

**I**N THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON News of the 18th May last, in our report of a lecture on the "Extinct Birds of New Zealand," delivered by Dr. Mantell before the Royal Institution, allusion was made to the discovery, by Mr. Walter Mantell, of the bones of other supposed extinct species and genera of birds associated with those of the Moa, or *Dinornis*. Of these, the most remarkable were the skulls and other parts of the skeleton of a very large and peculiar form of the Rail family (*Rallidae*), which are described by Professor Owen in the "Zoological Transactions," under the name of *NOTORNIS* (*Southern bird*) *MANTELLI*. According to the traditions of the Maoris, or natives of New Zealand, this bird formerly existed contemporaneously with the Moa, a large bird resembling the Swamp-Hen, but with a black appearance, answering in general description of the giant Rail, which is now known as *Dinornis*, in consequence of great antiquity, rendered most successfully studied and mounted by Mr. Bartlett, and may now be seen at Dr. Mantell's residence.

It seems probable that living examples of some of the other supposed extinct birds may yet be met with in the imperfectly explored districts of New Zealand; but we fear there is no reason to hope that we shall ever see a recent representative of the noble ostrich-like Moas, some twelve or fourteen feet high, whose fossil remains have excited so much astonishment even in the scientific world. Should, however, Mr. Walter Mantell's arduous researches be rewarded by the capture of a live Moa, in time for the World's Exhibition of 1851, we trust the Royal Commissioners will allow him space for its display, though not previously applied for. We may add that the *Notornis* has been most successfully studied and mounted by Mr. Bartlett, and may now be seen at Dr. Mantell's residence.

**MOVEMENT FOR THE REPEAL OF THE DUTY ON PAPER.**  
The near approach of the session of Parliament has given occasion to the paper manufacturers of the kingdom to direct public attention to the obnoxious character and barbarising tendency of the impost on paper, the enhanced cost of which, under the operation of the Excise Laws, so mischievously restricts the diffusion of knowledge and the education of the people.

The movement was inaugurated in the provinces by a meeting at Manchester, on Tuesday, held in the Clarence Hotel, Spring-gardens, at which several gentlemen of substance were present.

Mr. T. C. Potter (a paper manufacturer) who was called to the chair, detailed the steps which had hitherto been taken on the subject. In proof of how little acquainted the public were with the amount of the duty affected every individual in the community, he mentioned that he had that day met with an individual who was consuming £1000 worth of paper yearly, but who said "had not the least idea that paper paid any very serious duty," and was perfectly astounded when he (the chairman) informed him that it paid less than 40 per cent. This was not all; some descriptions of paper were taxed to the extent of 20 per cent. on the spot price. He hoped that if the public were now almost ignorant on the subject, they would fully appreciate the nature of the paper duty, not only would they be able to secure its speedy repeal, but, in fact, to make it a part of the next Budget. The paper manufacturers were, of course, the first to feel the effects of the tax, an excise officer to survey his premises to number every room in them, and also to mark, by letter, every implement with which the (manufacturer) proprie<sup>t</sup> to use. The act now in progress was amended to coincide, was called "A Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Laws for Collecting and Securing the Duties of Excise on Paper made in the United Kingdom;" if it was passed on the 5th July, 1850, and contained 60 clauses, a great number of which were penal. Section 3 required paper-makers, before commencing business, to make true and particular entry in writing of all their mills and premises, and every implement, vessel, &c., &c., of paper of any description, button-board, millboard, millboard, pasteboard, or whatever might deliver the same to the excise officer in whose survey the mill and premises might be situated; in which entry every engine, chest, machine, vat, and press shall be distinguished by a particular number or letter, or number and letter or letters;" in default of which, for every unentered mill or implement, the manufacturer or factor shall be liable together with all paper, button-board, millboard, pasteboard, or whatever, and all materials found therein." A similar penalty was imposed in case the manufacturer with his implement did not agree with the entry given in; so that if the number or letters were erased by accident, the excise officer could declare the premises as unentered, and enforce the penalty of £200. The chairman proceeded to read and comment

upon section 9, remarking that, under it, the labels issued by the Commissioners of Excise to be used in the tying up of paper, were made equal in value to the paper itself, that is, £10 imposed for every label delivered to any manufacturer, "and for every single label that is not given, or which shall be cancelled, obliterated, or destroyed, sold or given away, or improperly used, or not produced, or accounted for" when demanded by the excise officer. It was often necessary to entrust a working man with 1000 of those notes at once (representing to the manufacturer £10,000), and the manufacturers were, of course, always in danger, as some of the labels might be destroyed or removed through malice, or even through the slightest negligence, inattention, or carelessness, and if £10 per label was consumed, after paper was ready for delivery into the market, the manufacturer could send it out, in consequence of the notice required to be given prior to, and to clasp after, the weighing and charging of it with duty. This period, during which the paper was kept in the mill, was a longer one than was required for him to buy the raw materials in Manchester, send them to his mill, manufacture paper, and transport it to any part of the kingdom, if he were not to incur a loss of £1000, or more, in the consumption of paper to an almost incalculable extent. The chairman, after referring to other regulations and penal clauses in the act, pointed out the extent to which, despite the vigilance of the excise, frauds were constantly being committed, and said that of this the Government was fully aware, and acknowledged the difficulty of collecting the duty. Substitutes for paper were being continually produced, so nearly identical in their nature, that excisemen could not detect the difference until told of it; but they were allowed to do duty free. He himself, within ten days, had placed in the hands of a Government officer a specimen of a new material, which the officer unhesitatingly pronounced to be paper, notwithstanding that, not, nevertheless, dare to seize three tons of it, although he (the chairman) told him where it was lying. The chairman next referred to the great number of persons who depended upon the manufacture of paper, either directly or indirectly, and urged the immense advantage which must result to them from the abolition of the paper duty.

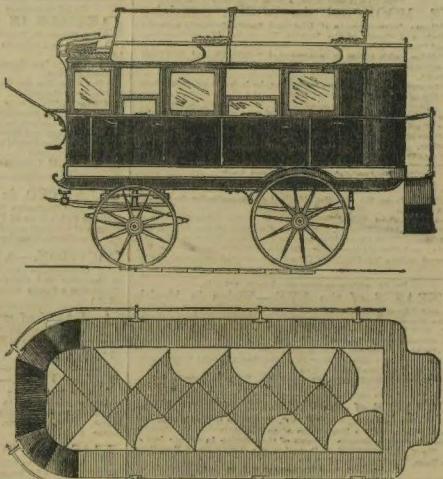
Mr. Baldwin described the injurious operation of the paper duty on the trade of Birmingham.

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. C. Potter and other gentlemen, and resolutions were agreed to for the commencement of a subscription, to aid the London Association, directing the secretary to communicate with all similar associations in the country, and urging paper manufacturers to solicit subscriptions from their friends generally, and to endeavour to make known the injurious operation of the tax complained of.

About £200 was subscribed by those present at the meeting.

## NEW PATENT OMNIBUS.

From the first introduction of the Omnibus into the streets of the metropolis, the public have been unanimous in their opinion as to the small amount of ingenuity displayed by coach-builders in the construction of these vehicles. There has, however, been no lack of attempts at improvement, as the several years' lists of patents will show; but, either from obtuseness of understanding, or from obscurity and cupidity on the part of the proprietors of omnibuses, they have neglected to profit by these contrivances; and the Omnibus of the present day differs but little from Mr. Shillibeer's first conveyance of the kind. The nuisances arising from this neglect are too sundry and manifold for us to enumerate: they are part and parcel of our daily experience, and go to swell the catalogue of minor



FRANKLIN'S NEW PATENT OMNIBUS.

miseries. In the same proportion, however, they render it alive to every attempt made to better the accommodation afforded by the "public carriages."

The most recent effort of this class is a new construction of omnibuses, presented by Mr. J. A. Franklinsky, which promises to prevent the annoyances complained of, by insuring to each passenger exclusive protection from his neighbour. The arrangement of the interior provides each passenger with a private seat, according to the plan shown in the Engraving. To this seat is attached a looking-glass, with a bell to ring for the conductor to pay attention to a speech, through which the passenger is to speak to the conductor to stop when required.

This Omnibus will resemble a private carriage; but, should any person wish to speak to his neighbour, he has only to touch a spring, and there will open a window for that purpose.

The exterior of the Omnibus is furnished with a gallery, with steps at the end of the carriage; and along this gallery each passenger will pass to his private door. Attached to the vehicle is an apparatus by which the proprietor will be enabled to ascertain the exact number of passengers conveyed during the day.

Messrs. Cook, Rowley, and Co., of King-square, Golden-square, and Liquor-pond-street, are building this new Omnibus for the patentee.

## ASTLEY'S THEATRE.

Last week we were compelled, by want of space, to notice the pantomime of "Harlequin O'Donoghue," or, the White Horse of Killarney, at the above theatre, too briefly. The piece is by the author of "Bluff King Hal," and, like that, promises a very long run. All our readers who are fond of Irish legendary lore must know that Prince O'Donoghue was a good Prince of Ireland, who (for what cause has never yet been discovered) was doomed to ride upon the Lakes of Killarney until the silver shoes on his horse should be worn out by the waters. This is the ground-work of a very good pantomime; the author making O'Donoghue the good genius, and Whiskey, personified, the evil spirit of Ireland. O'Donoghue takes two lovers under his care, who, to please the "Hog of Mischievous," are to be brought to ruin by her offspring Whiskey, whom she disguises as Peedy Carey. Lord Bulstrode, father to the lovely Kathleen, determines that he who can produce the best horse shall wed her, and puts her up as a prize. Dermot, her favoured lover, fears not, for he possesses a horse of surpassing breed; but alas, in an evil hour, Whiskey tempts him, and at dice he loses his beloved steed, and with it all his hopes. At this moment, O'Donoghue takes pity on him, and Dermot promising to "stick to the water-cure," he takes him to his "Statue of the thousand steeds" at the bottom of the lake. Here he lets Dermot's horse ride the ring with, the next day. He does so among the hills of Killarney, and when he fails to find his horse, Whiskey yet overpowers, for the Old Hog has told him "no power that of water can take his power away." He manages to get both Kathleen and Dermot's fairy steed into his possession, but this proves his ruin; for the horse seeking his native home, carries Whiskey and Kathleen to the bottom of the lake, and thus Whiskey's power is destroyed by water. O'Donoghue, having lent Dermot this own "white horse," goes to rescue him, and follows him to the bottom of the lake, and rescues his love, and brings her safe again to earth. Her character is changed, and the haricquinade begins. The scenery, by Mr. Dalby, is all good, particularly the "Lake of Killarney," which we have chosen for the subject of our illustration, at the moment O'Donoghue appears prancing on the waters, attended by his fairy train. The dress of O'Donoghue, which is nearly all silver, is very superb. Mr. Harvey and his graceful wife, are very good as Harlequin and his wife. No actress can be compared with Mrs. Pakenham, and Mr. Henderson has long been acknowledged a first-rate Clowner. The theatre has been so crowded ever since the production of "Harlequin O'Donoghue," that nightly some two or three hundred persons are accommodated with places on the stage during the scenes in the circle.

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SCENE FROM THE NEW PANTOMIME OF "HARLEQUIN AND O'DONOGHUE" AT ASTLEY'S.